Real Clothes

by Makimura Satoru

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Translated by QuixoticPixel
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QC by Maris

槇村さとる
MAKIMURA SATORU

The TV drama, "Real Clothes," has safely come to an end. I'm grateful to everyone who was involved in the production of the drama.

When real humans acted it out, either the lines or the expressions, carefree or warm, I felt affection and something else – sympathy? Or is this called empathy? – towards the characters when drawing the manga. Every week, my heart pounded with, "What's gonna happen?" I was happy.

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Makimura Satoru

Real Clothes 9

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リアル・クローズ

YOU QUEEN'S COMICS

Real Clothes リアル・クローズ 9

槇村さとる

集英社

ISBN978-4-08-865580-2

C9979 ¥419E

9784088655802

1929979004194

定価 本体419円＋税

雑誌 44545－80

Reborn! Matsukoshi's key item is "denim"! Will the awakened Rebranding Chief, Inamura, be able to bring in a breath of fresh air to this historic establishment?!

The Matsukoshi's Ladies Fashion sales floor rebrand has begun with the massive cut of labels and led to Inamura's sudden promotion. Inamura accepts her fate at last, and awakens as a leader. Kinue and Inamura, having determined the key item to be "denim," win over a very particular label, but can the collaboration be made a reality?!

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QUEEN'S COMICS

Real Clothes 9

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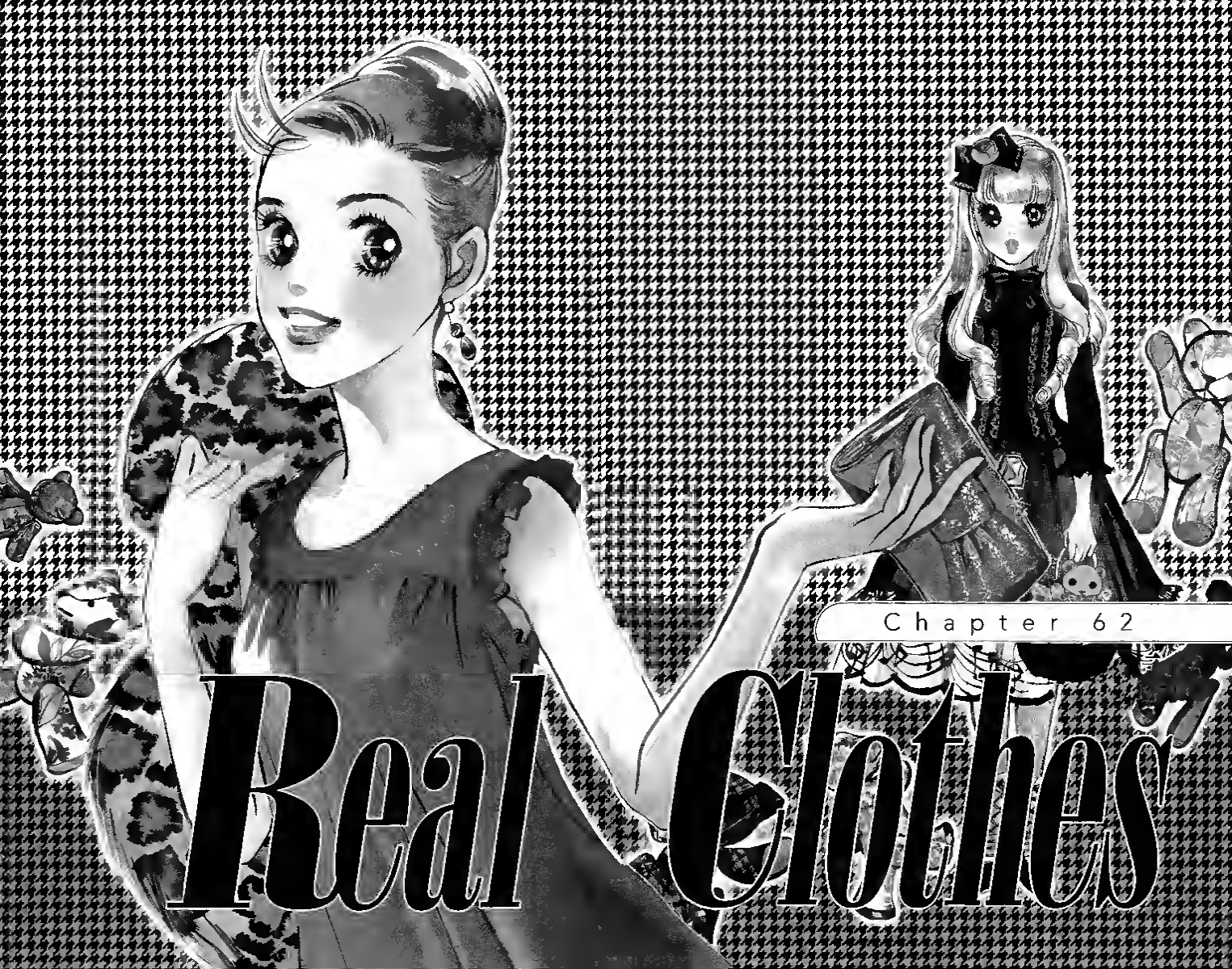
THE MATSUKOSHI LADIES' FASHION'S REBRANDING MAIN BRANCH HEAD IS
YOU!!
!

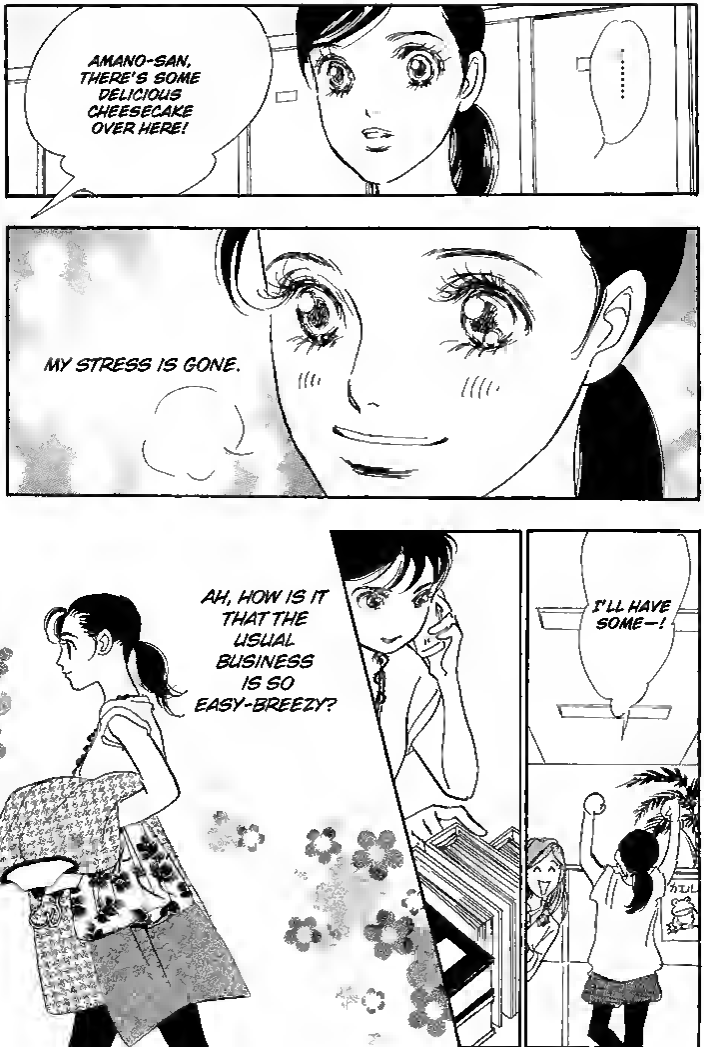

Chapter 62
Real Clothes

WELL NOW,
FOR THE MOMENT, LET'S PLAN TO HAVE A MEETING AT THE BEGINNING OF NEXT WEEK
PLEASE BRING YOUR PLANS THEN, INAMURA-SAN

WHY ME...?
YOUR JOB ISN'T TO WONDER, "WHY ME?" BUT "HOW WILL I DO IT?"
I'LL BE HERE TO ASSIST YOU. LET'S WORK HARD TOGETHER

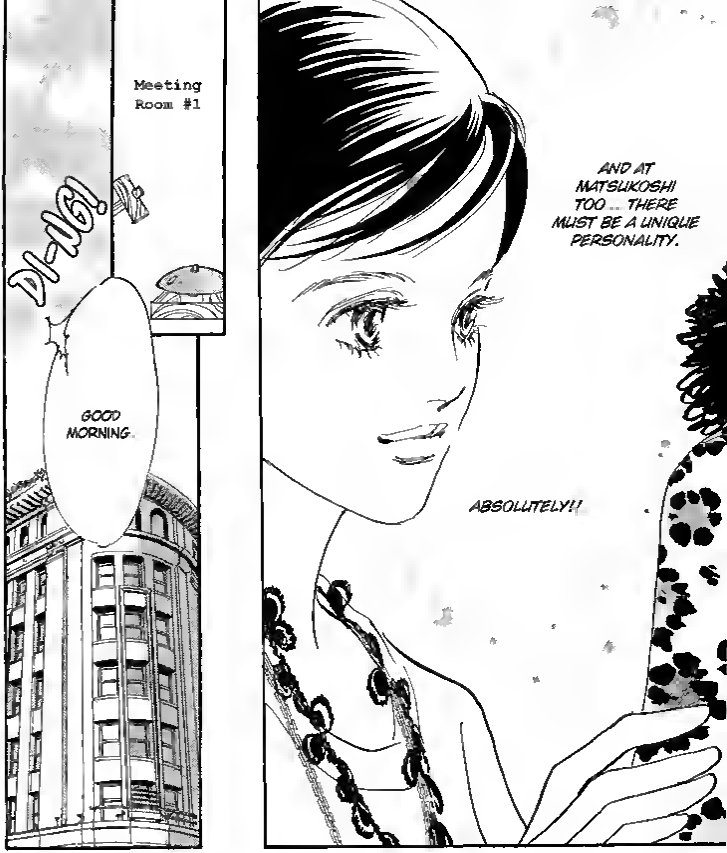
IT'S ALRIGHT! BECAUSE WHEN YOU'RE SERIOUS, YOU'RE AMAZING!!
FIGHT ON,
YOU ARE CAPABLE!
I KNOW THIS FOR A FACT—
BUCHOU, HANG IN THERE!
EVEN IF THAT YOUNG GIRL STOOD UP BACK THERE,
WE WON'T CHANGE ANYTHING
IT'S JUST AS YOU SAY!
THOSE INTERLOPERS WILL SUFFER SETBACKS EARLY ON
THEN, WHEN THE TIME COMES, WE'LL ROUND THEM UP AND CHASE THEM OUT.

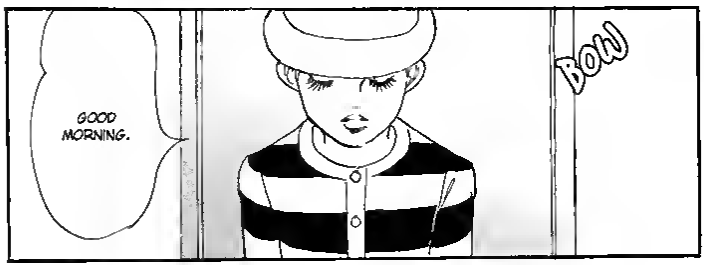
I HAVE RETURNED--!
.....
MOO HOO HA HA HA
OH-- IT'S AMANO-SAN! WELCOME BACK~
AMANO-SAN, WHAT SHOULD WE DO ABOUT THE ACE COLLABORATION?
Welcome~

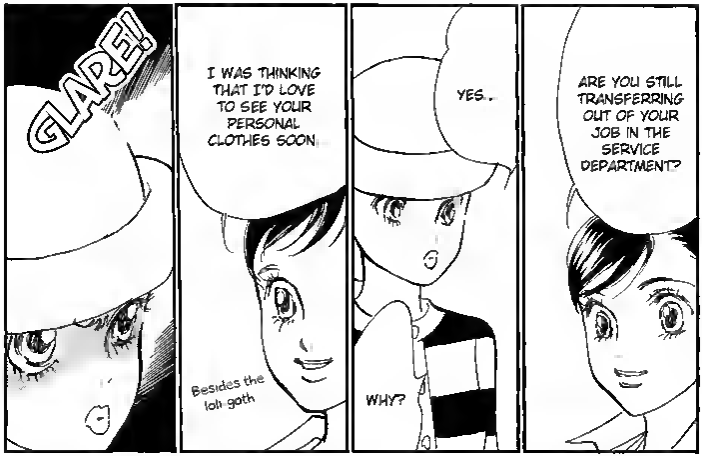

AMANO-SAN, THERE'S SOME DELICIOUS CHEESECAKE OVER HERE!
.....
MY STRESS IS GONE.
AH, HOW IS IT THAT THE USUAL BUSINESS IS SO EASY-BREEZY?
I'LL HAVE SOME—!

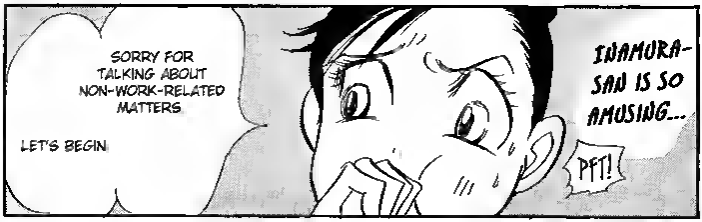
I TRIED MATCHING ALL TYPES OF TEXTURES WITH THE UNIFYING THEME OF "USEFUL BLACK."
TEE-HEE-HEE! PLEASE BUY IT~!
HM~ IN BAD BUSINESS TIMES, BLACK WILL SELL, HUH.
OH! I WANT THAT.
THE FOUNDATION IS BLACK AND SPARKLY.
THEN SHEER AND GEOMETRIC.
AND SLEEK AND SMOOTH.
I TRIED LAYERING THEM ALL.

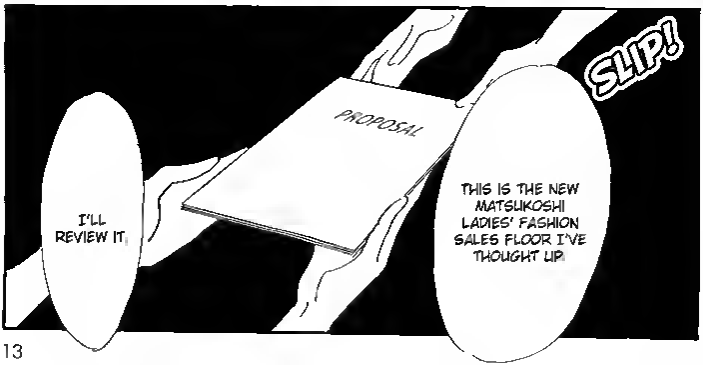
MAYBE A THIN CHAIN WILL DO.
THERE'S A FRESH ENERGY.
THERE'S ELEGANCE IN ECHIZENYA'S CLOTHES.

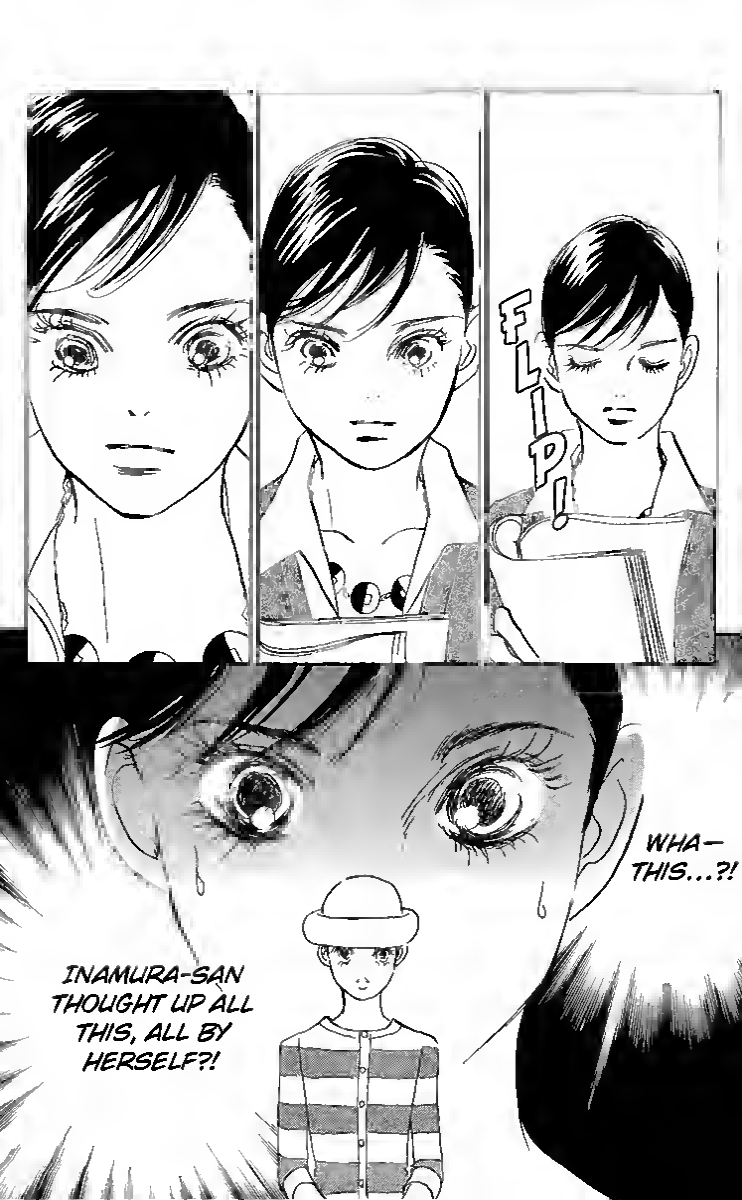

Meeting Room #1
DI-LIG!
GOOD MORNING.
AND AT MATSUKOSHI TOO... THERE MUST BE A UNIQUE PERSONALITY.
ABSOLUTELY!!


GOOD MORNING.
BOW


GLARE!
I WAS THINKING THAT I'D LOVE TO SEE YOUR PERSONAL CLOTHES SOON.
Besides the loli goth
YES.
WHY?
ARE YOU STILL TRANSFERRING OUT OF YOUR JOB IN THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT?


SORRY FOR TALKING ABOUT NON-WORK-RELATED MATTERS.
LET'S BEGIN.
INAMURA-SAN IS SO AMUSING...
PFT!

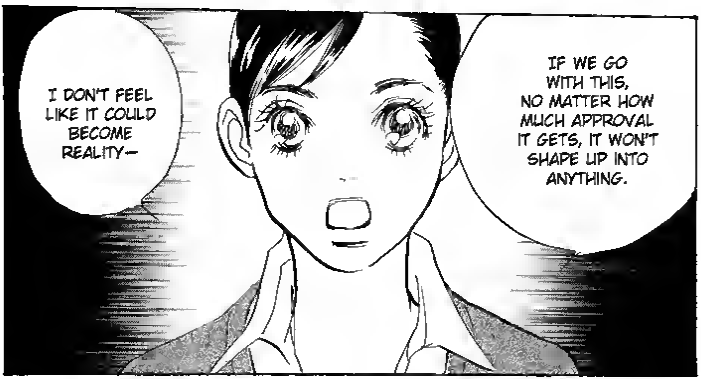

SLIP!
PROPOSAL
I'LL REVIEW IT.
THIS IS THE NEW MATSUKOSHI LADIES' FASHION SALES FLOOR I'VE THOUGHT UP.

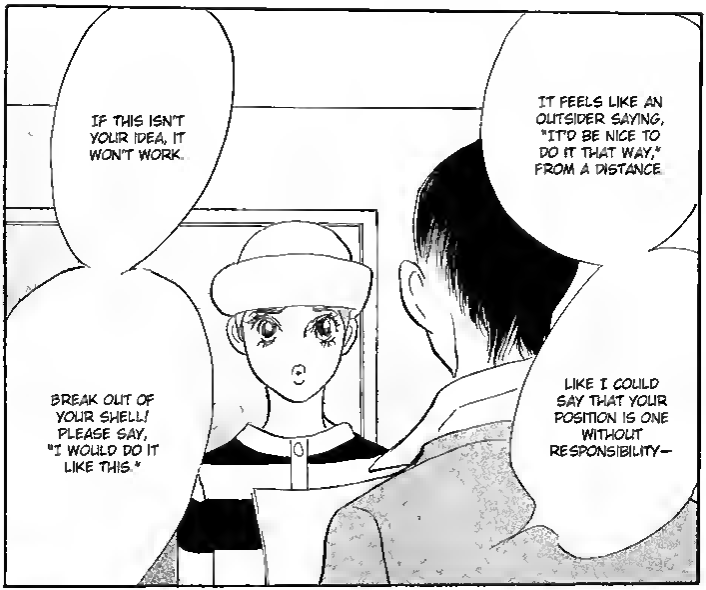

FLIP!
WHA— THIS...?!
INAMURA-SAN THOUGHT UP ALL THIS, ALL BY HERSELF?!

SIGH
—BUT...
A SALES FLOOR... FROM A DREAM...
"MEASURES TO TAKE AGAINST MATSUKOSHI'S WEAKNESSES,"
"REVISING WAYS OF DISPLAYING MERCHANDISE,"
LADIES FASHION MAIN FLOOR
THE THEME IS THE "BEAUTIFUL MILIEU."
IT'S SPECIFIC AND ACCOMPANIED WITH DATA
THE NECESSARY GUIDANCE ON RESTRUCTURING AND ALSO...

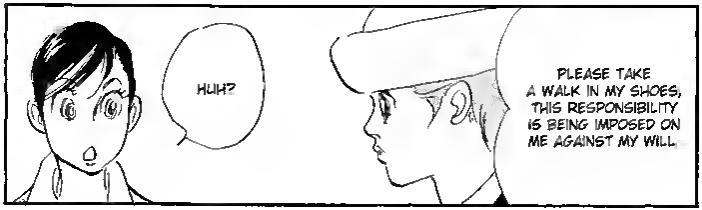
THIS SENSE OF DISSATISFACTION?
WHAT IS THIS... THIS GLOOMINESS?
THIS HEAVINESS OF FEELING?
GASP!
IT'S SIMILAR TO THAT TIME.
KONISHI-SAN'S PLAN WAS PERFECT.
BUT IT DIDN'T GO FORWARD
THAT WAS BECAUSE I, THE LEADER, COULDN'T DECIDE THAT "WE'LL DO IT THIS WAY!"

THERE'S NO VISION IN THIS.
IT'S— BORING.

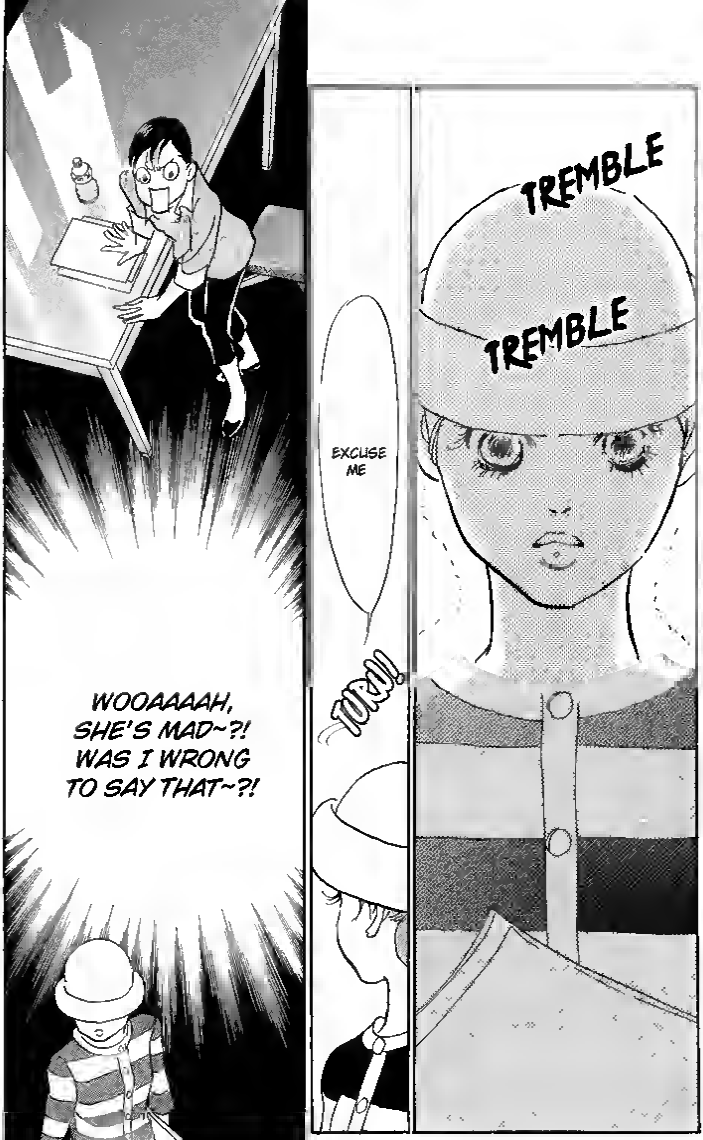

IF WE GO WITH THIS, NO MATTER HOW MUCH APPROVAL IT GETS, IT WON'T SHAPE UP INTO ANYTHING.
I DON'T FEEL LIKE IT COULD BECOME REALITY—


IF THIS ISN'T YOUR IDEA, IT WON'T WORK.
IT FEELS LIKE AN OUTSIDER SAYING, "IT'D BE NICE TO DO IT THAT WAY," FROM A DISTANCE.
BREAK OUT OF YOUR SHELL! PLEASE SAY, "I WOULD DO IT LIKE THIS."
LIKE I COULD SAY THAT YOUR POSITION IS ONE WITHOUT RESPONSIBILITY—

BREAK— YOU SAY,
...SHELL... AND,


HUH?
PLEASE TAKE A WALK IN MY SHOES, THIS RESPONSIBILITY IS BEING IMPOSED ON ME AGAINST MY WILL.

INAMURA-SAN, YOU'RE NOT A VICTIM OF ANYTHING.
"BEING IMPOSED ON" AND "FORCED TO DO" TALK—
ABOUT THAT, THIS
AND REMEMBER THAT I AM BEING FORCED TO DO A JOB I'D NEVER EVEN TRIED TO IMAGINE
YOU SAID YOU WERE UP TO IT.
PLEASE DON'T RUN AWAY!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO IS GOING TO DO THIS!!
DO IT OVER!


TREMBLE
TREMBLE
EXCUSE ME
WOOAAAAH, SHE'S MAD~?! WAS I WRONG TO SAY THAT~?!

WHAT SHOULD I DO TO GET SOMEONE FIRED UP ABOUT SOMETHING?
"STRUCTURE" .. "JOBS" .. HOW DO THEY FIT TOGETHER?
EVEN IF I HAD AN IDEA FROM THE START ..
ASKING IS BUT A MOMENT OF EMBARASSMENT.*
DASH!!
BOSS!

*TN: "Kikuwa Ittsu no Haji" is a proverb which translates to "To ask is but a moment's shame, but not to ask is a lifetime's shame")

HOW DO YOU SET UP A STRUCTURE THAT CAN INFLUENCE OTHERS??
YOUR GUIDANCE, PLEASE!
GRIN!
HEADDESK!
HELL IF I KNOW.

HM?
ASK THE GROCERIES DIVISION.
!?
I'M JUST A PLAYER IN THE MIDDLE OF A STRUCTURE.
WELL, A STAR PLAYER.
HEH HEH HEH...
RIGHT.
YES, YES.
THANKS A LOT.
WANT SOME? IT'S APPLE PIE FROM ANGELINA'S!
Just go away

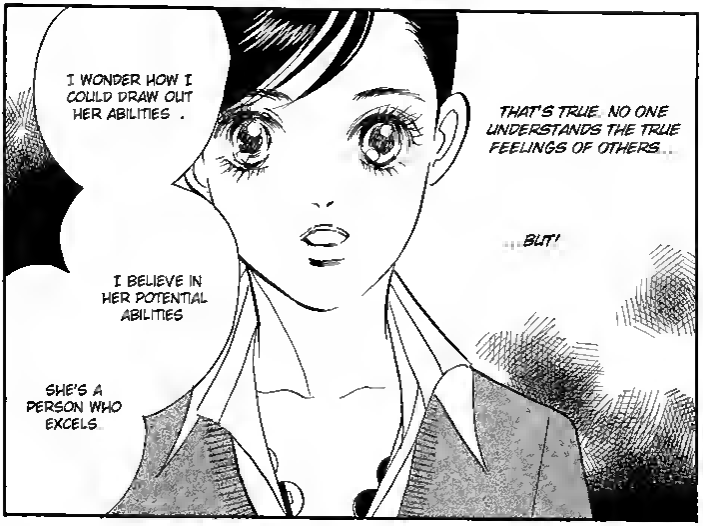
CLACK!
MAMA!
Sh!

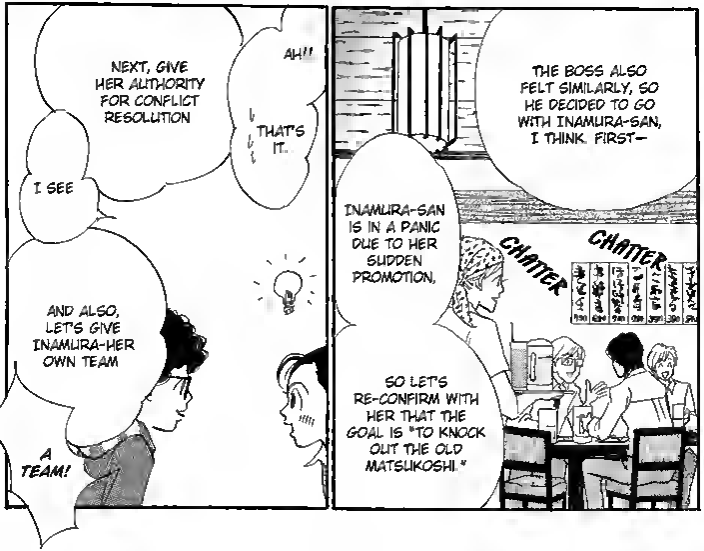
CLACK!
CLACK!
CLACK!
HOW TO SET UP A STRUCTURE THAT CAN INFLUENCE OTHERS?

THIS IS INAMURA-SAN'S PLAN.
PROPOSAL
SORRY FOR THE WAIT— HERE ARE YOUR TWO BEERS.
THANKS.
YEAH, IT'S WELL DONE. IT LOOKS LIKE YOU COULD MAKE THIS SALES FLOOR.
FLIP
BUT!
NOWHERE IN THERE IS IT WRITTEN, "I'LL DO IT"
THERE'S A PASSIVITY THAT SEEMS TO BEG, LIKE SHE'S SAYING, "PLEASE HAVE IT LIKE THIS."

BAM!
I WANT HER TO PROPERLY CHARGE IN!!
SLA
M!
SURPRISED...
AMANO-SAN, YOU'RE THE TYPE OF PERSON WHO OPENS UP ABOUT YOUR OWN LIFE

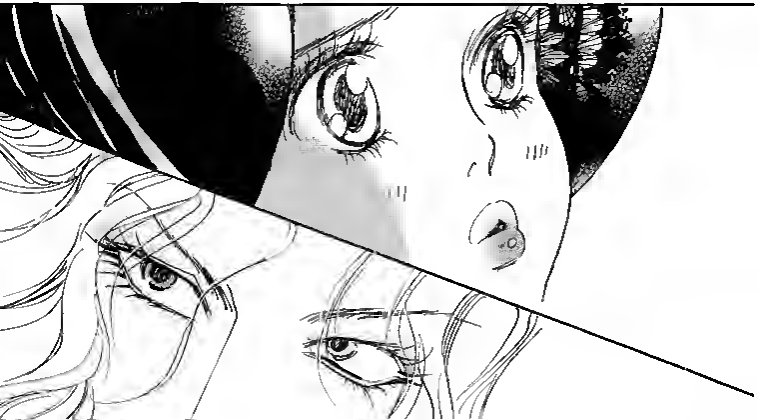
—THERE IS THAT KIND OF PERSON, YOU KNOW.
THE TYPE THAT, ABOVE ALL, HATES STICKING THEIR NECK OUT, ONLY TO FAIL AND GET HURT.
Someone who likes taking orders
SINCE I'VE MADE THE SAME MISTAKE IN THE PAST...
NO..
BLUSH
AND SHE IS DISSATISFIED WITH THE COMPANY.
INAMURA-SAN IS REALLY A PASSIONATE PERSON AT HEART.
UH...
DISSATISFACTION ALSO MEANS "SHE MAY NOT WANT TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT."


I WONDER HOW I COULD DRAW OUT HER ABILITIES.
I BELIEVE IN HER POTENTIAL ABILITIES
SHE'S A PERSON WHO EXCELS.
THAT'S TRUE. NO ONE UNDERSTANDS THE TRUE FEELINGS OF OTHERS...
...BUT!

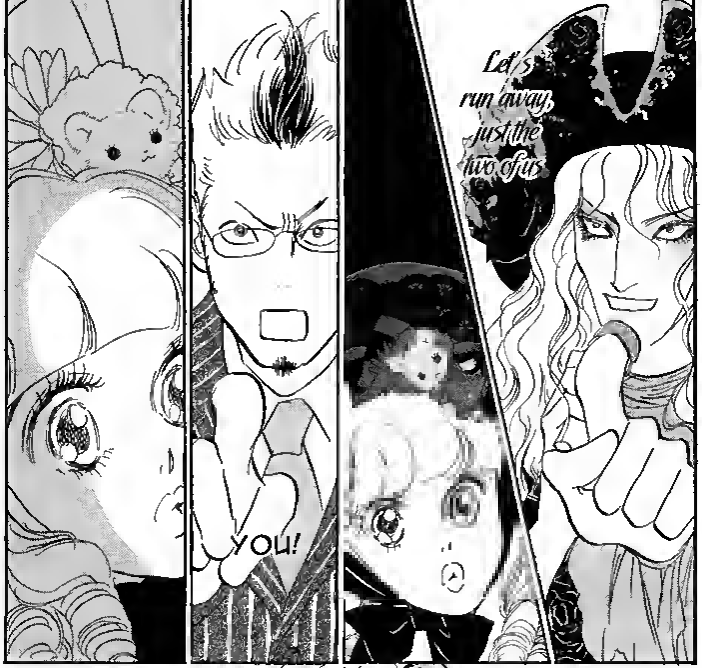

NEXT, GIVE HER AUTHORITY FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION
I SEE
AND ALSO, LET'S GIVE INAMURA-HER OWN TEAM
A TEAM!
AH!!
THAT'S IT.
THE BOSS ALSO FELT SIMILARLY, SO HE DECIDED TO GO WITH INAMURA-SAN, I THINK. FIRST—
INAMURA-SAN IS IN A PANIC DUE TO HER SUDDEN PROMOTION,
SO LET'S RE-CONFIRM WITH HER THAT THE GOAL IS "TO KNOCK OUT THE OLD MATSUKOSHI."
CHATTER
CHATTER

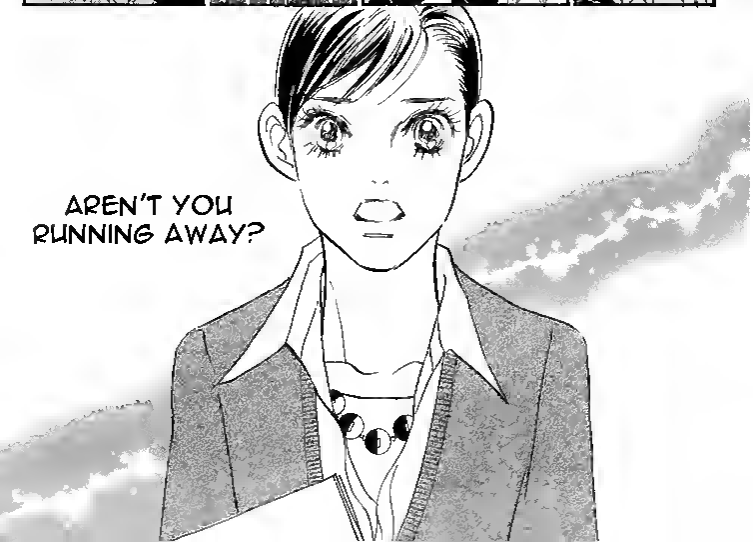
WE'LL GATHER UP ALL THE PEOPLE FROM MATSUKOSHI WHO HAVE THE MAKINGS OF CORE INNOVATORS
"PEOPLE WHO CAN HANDLE BUYING ALONE."
"PEOPLE GOOD AT MERCHANDISE DISPLAYS."
IF NECESSARY, "SYSTEM ENGINEERS."
"ADVERTISING EXPERTS."
This kind of organization?
YEAH!
THE REASON FOR THE TEAM IS TO IMPLEMENT THIS DREAM.
I'M STARTING TO THINK THIS WILL WORK OUT.
RIGHT?
WAFT
NIKO... HE'S GOT MAD SKILLS.

AAAAAAA



In the midst of my despair, I was all alone.
Tears the color of blood.
And then, I met you.


Let's run away, just the two of us
YOU!

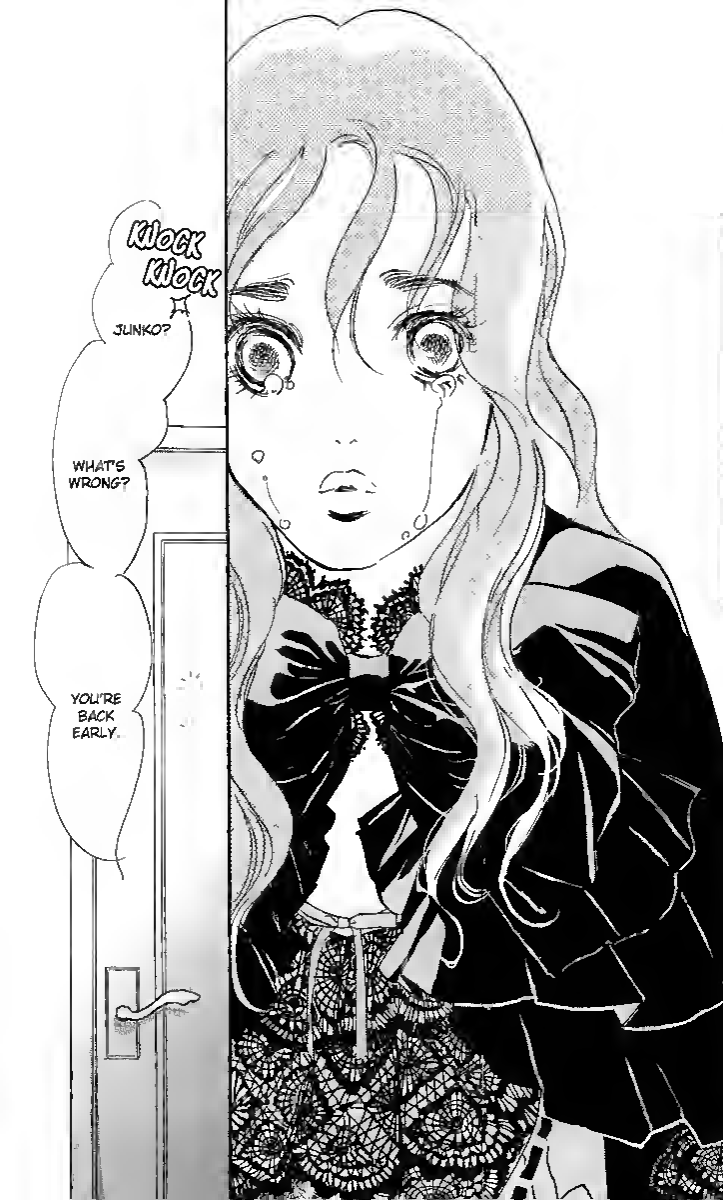

AREN'T YOU RUNNING AWAY?

WHEN YOU FLEE,
WILL THE COMPANY
COLLAPSE THE
FOLLOWING DAY?!

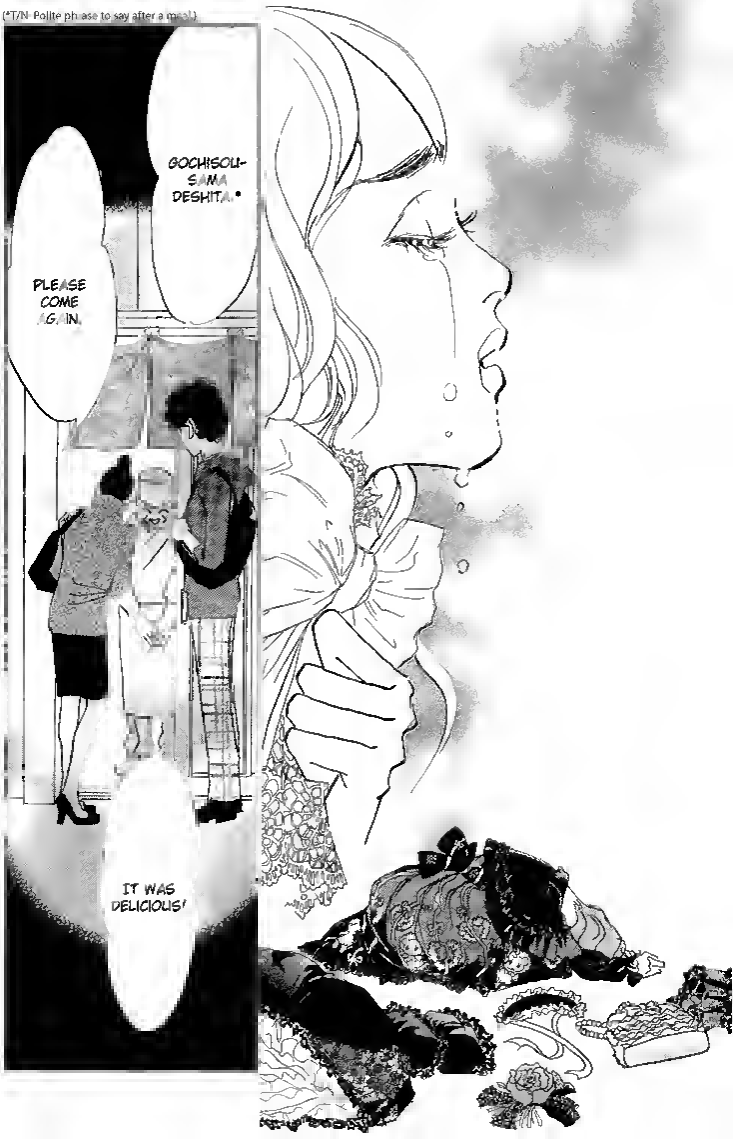
IF YOU DON'T SMASH THROUGH YOUR SHELL AND GET OUT,
THEN IT'S THE SAME THING AS KILLING YOURSELF!

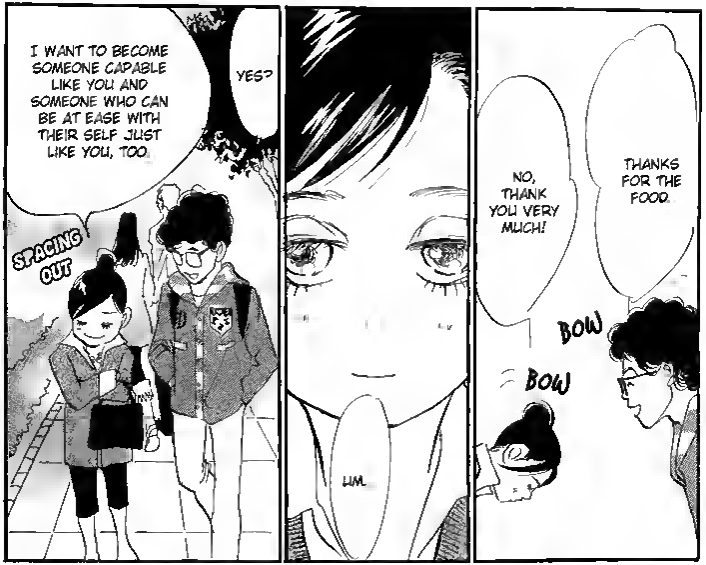
稲村
INAMURA
RUN RUN RUN
GRAB

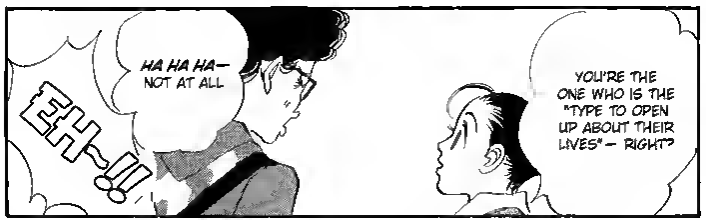
TOSS!


KNOCK KNOCK
JUNKO?
WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU'RE BACK EARLY.

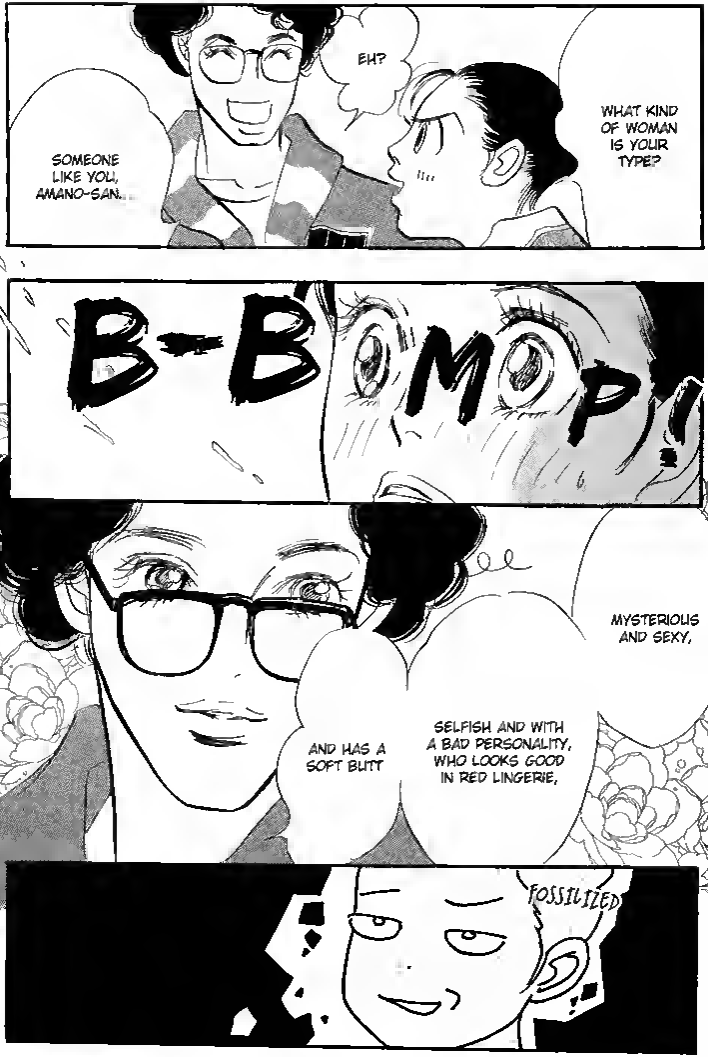
(*T/N: Polite phrase to say after a meal.)




I WANT TO BECOME SOMEONE CAPABLE LIKE YOU AND SOMEONE WHO CAN BE AT EASE WITH THEIR SELF JUST LIKE YOU, TOO.
YES?
SPACING OUT
UM
THANKS FOR THE FOOD.
NO, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
BOW
BOW


HA HA HA— NOT AT ALL
EH~!!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO IS THE "TYPE TO OPEN UP ABOUT THEIR LIVES"— RIGHT?

TEE-HEE-HEE~!
THEN, "THE TYPE WHO WEAKENS IN LOVE"!


WHAT KIND OF WOMAN IS YOUR TYPE?
EH?
SOMEONE LIKE YOU, AMANO-SAN.
B-B-BOMP!
MYSTERIOUS AND SEXY,
SELFISH AND WITH A BAD PERSONALITY, WHO LOOKS GOOD IN RED LINGERIE,
AND HAS A SOFT BUTT
FOSSILIZED

End of Chapter 62

Real Clothes

by Makimura Satoru

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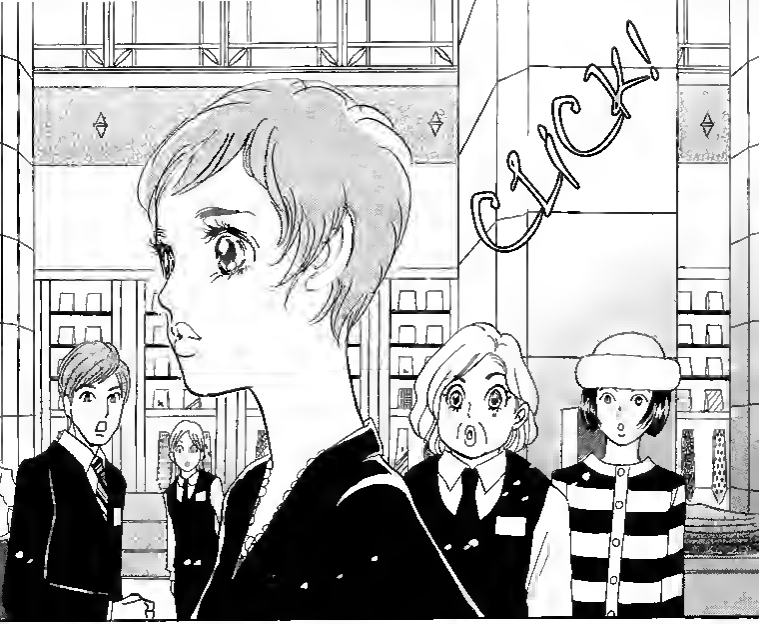
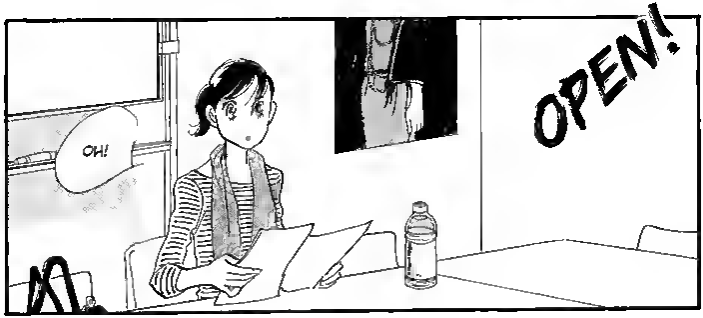
Translated by : Quixoticpixul
Proof-read by : Cyber_3
Cleaned by : Paroida
Typeset by : In Valen's Name
QC by : Maris

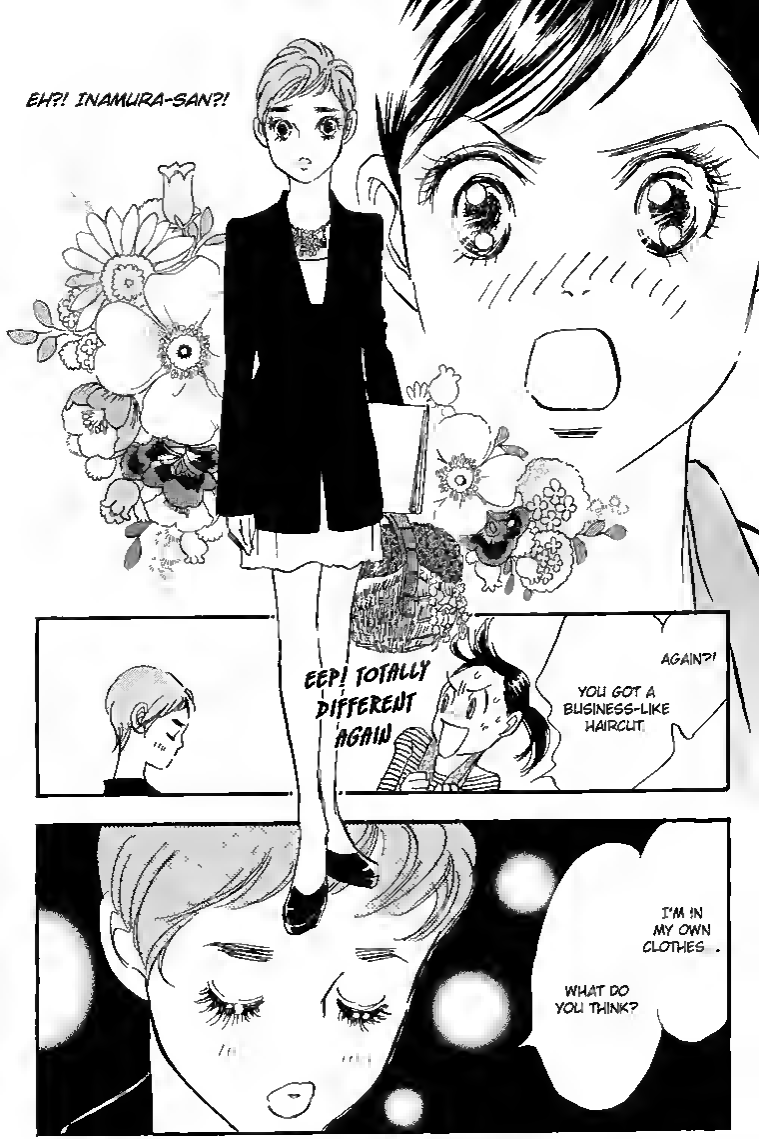
CLACK!
DI-NG!
INAMURA-SAN IS A CAPABLE PERSON.
SHE'S JUST FLUSTERED BY THE SUDDEN PROMOTION.
ALSO, SHE'S A BIT OF THE INSECURE TYPE.
IT'S MY JOB TO SUPPORT HER!

Real Clothes
Chapter 63


CLICK!

Conference Room
IT'S INAMURA
YES?
KNOCK
KNOCK


OH!
OPEN!

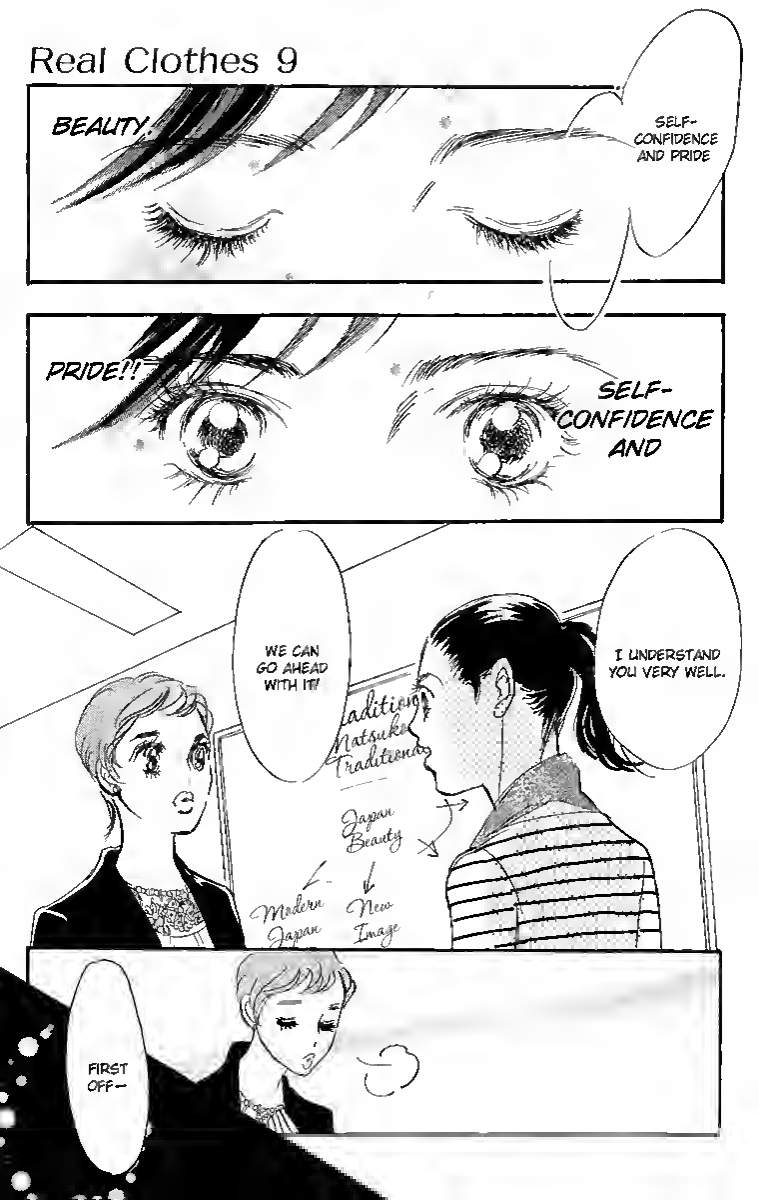

EH?! INAMURA-SAN?!
EEP! TOTALLY DIFFERENT AGAIN
AGAIN?!
YOU GOT A BUSINESS-LIKE HAIRCUT.
I'M IN MY OWN CLOTHES.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

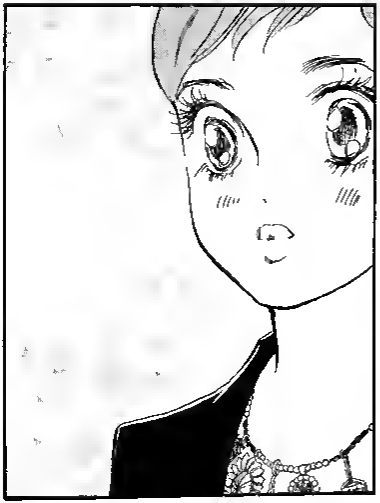
IT'S FAR COOLER THAN WHEN I FIRST TRANSFERRED TO THE LADIES FASHION DEPARTMENT!
Monkey
Boring clothes
THAT STATEMENT NECKLACE IS ESPECIALLY YOU
IT REALLY SUITS YOU!!
AH~ WHY AM I TALKING LIKE A KNOW-IT-ALL~ I'VE GOT A TERRIBLE PERSONALITY!
TRUE.
IT'D BE EVEN BETTER IF YOU ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES TO SHOW OFF YOUR SLENDER FOREARMS.

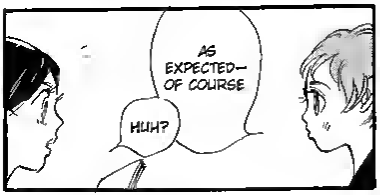
GYAA—! GENTEEL AND CUTE—!
LET'S GET TO WORK.
COUGH!
I WANT TO CLEARLY WORK OUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MATSUKOSHI FROM HERE ON OUT
LET'S DECIDE ON A THEME TO TIE TOGETHER THE ENTIRE REBRANDING PROCESS.

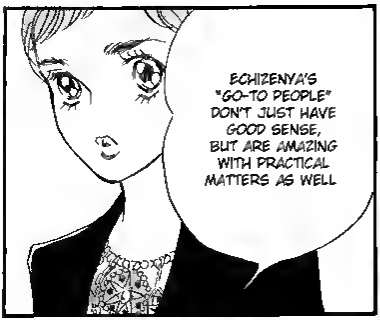
THE THEME IS
"MATSUKOSHI TRADITIONAL."
BAM!
IT'S A BROAD PIPELINE FOR THE DOMESTIC LABELS WITH LONG-STANDING HISTORIES
THAT'S THE POINT WE NEED TO POLISH AND HIGHLIGHT
Matsukoshi Traditional
Japan Beauty
SQUEAK!
MATSUKOSHI'S APPEAL IS IN ITS HISTORY, HERITAGE, AND ITS TRADITION OF HIGH-QUALITY

WE'LL SEND A MESSAGE TO THE WORLD ABOUT THE BEAUTY OF JAPAN
CLENCH
AND THEN...
INAMURA-SAN, I .. FEEL LIKE I'M TEARING UP..
REVIVE THE DOMESTIC LABELS
SECURE THE CREATION OF PRODUCTS FROM JAPAN


BEAUTY.
SELF-CONFIDENCE AND PRIDE
PRIDE!?
SELF-CONFIDENCE AND
WE CAN GO AHEAD WITH IT!
I UNDERSTAND YOU VERY WELL.
Tradition
Matsuka Traditions
Japan Beauty
Modern Japan
New Image
FIRST OFF—

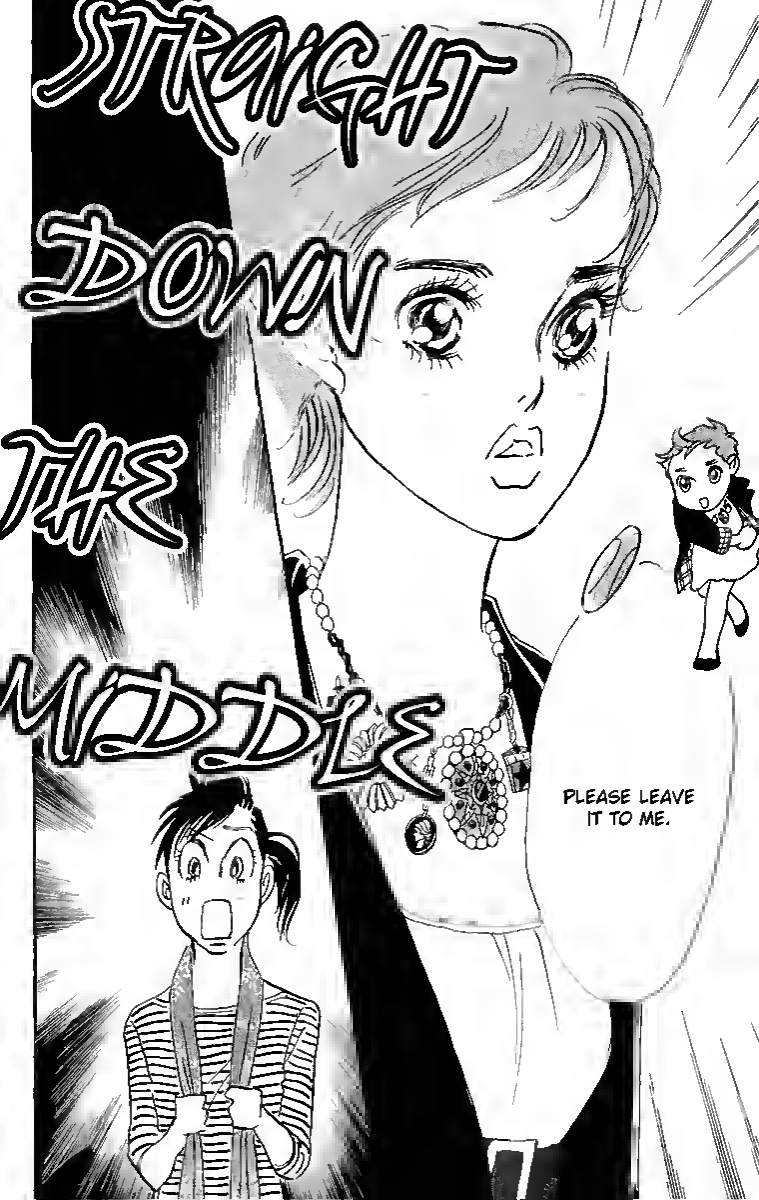



AS EXPECTED— OF COURSE
HUH?

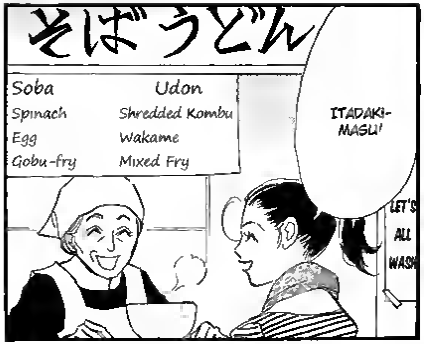

ECHIZENYA'S "GO-TO PEOPLE" DON'T JUST HAVE GOOD SENSE, BUT ARE AMAZING WITH PRACTICAL MATTERS AS WELL

PLEASE SELECT THE PEOPLE YOU TRUST FROM MATSUKOSHI
WE'RE FORMING A TEAM
WE'LL NEED A MANAGER, BUYERS,
SALES, P R —
MATSUKOSHI
PLEASE BRING TOGETHER ALL THE KEY PEOPLE.

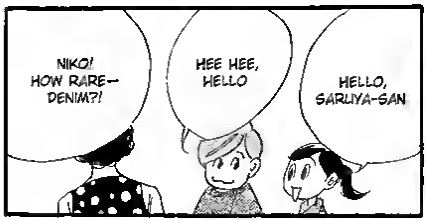
THE NEXT MEETING WILL SEE THE TEAM GATHERED TOGETHER.
WE'LL DECIDE ON THE KEY ITEM THAT WILL HEADLINE THE REBRANDING PROJECT
YES, MA'AM
Traditional Matsukochi Traditional
Japan Beauty
Fine Soap
TH— THIS IS ALL—! NIKO'S BORROWED WISDOM.
I CRAMMED OVERNIGHT!
HA HA!
I CAN'T TELL HER— LOOK AT ME, ACTING SO COOL—!!!
AMANO-SAN
YES?


STRAIGHT
DOWN
THE
MIDDLE
PLEASE LEAVE IT TO ME.

A FASTBALL RIGHT TO MY GLOVE.
NUMB...
CLICK!
PEOPLE CAN CHANGE.
IF PEOPLE CAN CHANGE, THE COMPANY WILL CHANGE.
I'm sure...


そばうどん
Soba
Udon
Spinach
Shredded Kombu
Egg
Wakame
Gobu-fry
Mixed Fry
ITADAKI-MASU!
LET'S ALL WASH

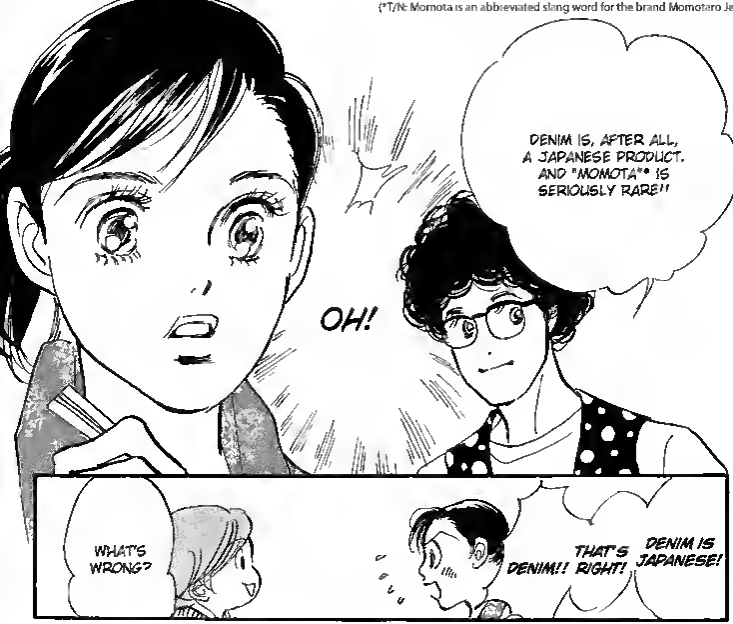
CAN I HAVE THAT TOO?
Hm?
CROQUETTE SOBA WITH AN EGG ON TOP?
OH MY.

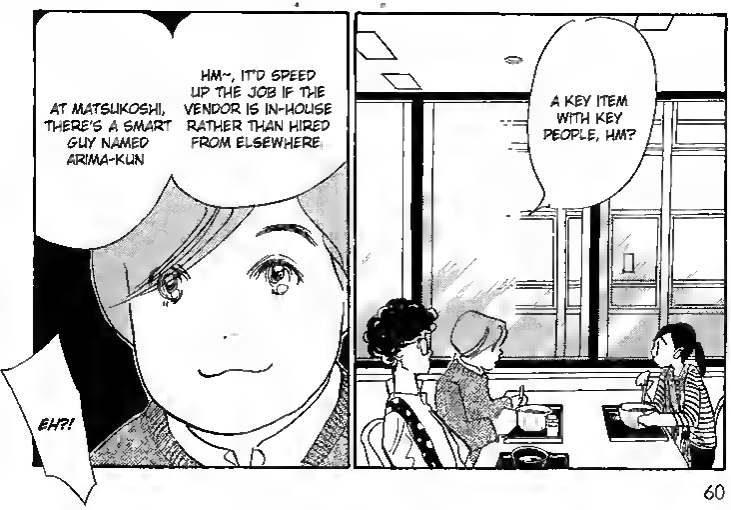

NIKO! HOW RARE—DENIM?!
HEE HEE, HELLO
HELLO, SARUYA-SAN

A KEY ITEM!
SET!
HERE YOU GO!

DENIM IS BOUGHT AS "KIDS," AND IS "RAISED" BY BEING WORN IN OVER A NUMBER OF YEARS.
BUT JUST WHEN YOU THINK, "AH- THEY'RE FINALLY THE RIGHT COLOR AND FIT!"
THEY SUDDENLY END UP FALLING APART
"RAISED"... HUH?
THEY'VE BEEN RAISED TO A GREAT- FIT!
AREN'T THEY CUTE?
Pfft!
YOU DON'T JUST LIKE DENIM, YOU'RE A TRUE FANATIC, EH?
"HEART-BREAKING CLOTHES."

(*T/N: Momota is an abbreviated slang word for the brand Momotaro Jeans.)




AT MATSUKOSHI, THERE'S A SMART GUY NAMED ARIMA-KUN
HM~, IT'D SPEED UP THE JOB IF THE VENDOR IS IN-HOUSE RATHER THAN HIRED FROM ELSEWHERE
EH?!
A KEY ITEM WITH KEY PEOPLE, HM?

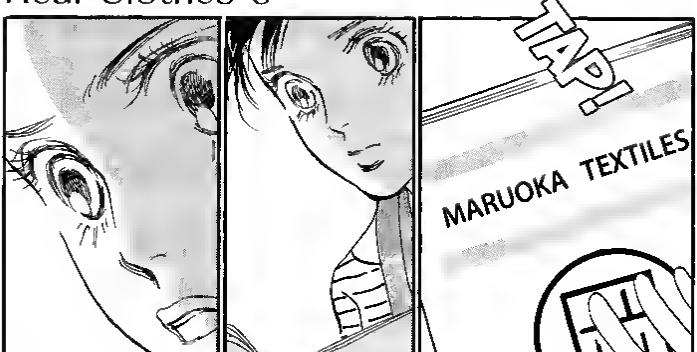
NO— IT'S NOTHING SO IMPRESSIVE
HOW COME YOU KNOW ABOUT PEOPLE FROM OTHER COMPANIES, SARUYA-SAN?
ARIMA-SAN? I'M WRITING THIS DOWN
EH— WHO IS SHE MARRYING?
SPEAKING OF WHICH, THE DIVA FROM GENERAL AFFAIRS IS ABOUT TO LEAVE THE COMPANY TO GET MARRIED, APPARENTLY
It's not really a compliment
WOW!
WHISPER
WHISPER
SURPRISINGLY, IT'S—
WHISPER
These two aunties
Tray Return
HUH? WHERE'S AMANO-SAN?

Their unique denim weaving loom is the only one of its kind in the whole world
They have roots in the Okayama veteran shop, Okamura Momotaro Company, established in Meiji 10*.

(*T.N. This is equivalent to 1877 in the Western calendar.)

HEEEE~ SHOPS WITH HISTORIES REALLY ARE INTERESTING!
A HA HA HA
FOUNDER, OKAMURA MOMOTARO'S BUST
PFT!

WHO WAS IT?
I KNOW IT
THIS FACE
FLIP
FLIP
FLIP
マ行
CLATTER!

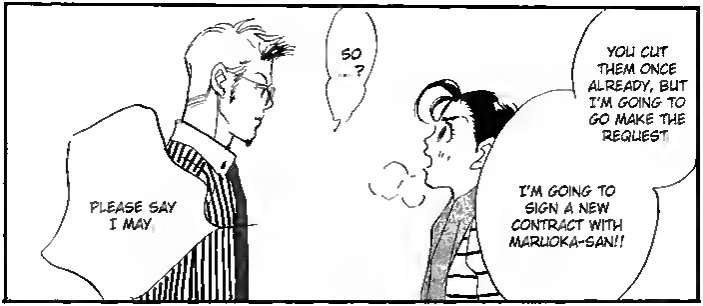

TAP!
MARUOKA TEXTILES

MOMOTARO COMPANY'S PARENT COMPANY IS MARUOKA TEXTILES!!
THAT OLD MAN'S COMPANY!!

MARUOKA HAS A DENIM WEAVING LOOM THAT'S THE ONLY ONE OF ITS KIND IN THE WORLD?!
BOSS!

ECHIZENYA
THE KEY PRODUCT THAT WILL BECOME THE CENTERPIECE TO THE MATSUKOSHI RENEWAL IS DENIM.
THE ONE WHO CAN MAKE THAT DENIM IS MARUOKA-SAN!!

HUFF
HUFF


SO...?
YOU CUT THEM ONCE ALREADY, BUT I'M GOING TO GO MAKE THE REQUEST
I'M GOING TO SIGN A NEW CONTRACT WITH MARUOKA-SAN!!
PLEASE SAY I MAY

THAT'S FINE AND ALL, BUT I ALREADY TOLD YOU.
IT'S ALRIGHT TO SET AN APPOINTMENT, RIGHT?
I'M GOING TO GO WITH INAMURA-SAN.
I TOLD YOU, "THE BATTLE COMES AFTER THE RELATIONSHIP IS ENDED," RIGHT?
WHY ARE YOU SAYING THIS LIKE IT'S YOUR OWN IDEA?
BOSS, YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME
HEY NOW!
I WILL DEFINITELY GET A CONTRACT WITH MARUOKA-SAN!!
TEE-HEE
RUN RUN
AMANO!
WHEN YOU GO TO GET A CONTRACT—

DON'T GRIN LIKE AN IDIOT!
DON'T BE LATE, DON'T TALK ABOUT UNNECESSARY THINGS!
AND CHARM THE PANTS OFF OF THEM!
YES, SIR!
.....
WHAT ABOUT TEA AND SNACKS?
ABSOLUTELY EAT THEM!

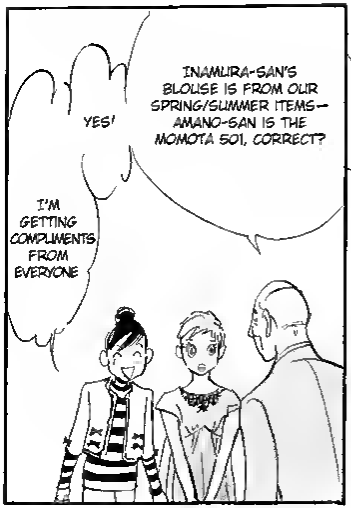
WERE YOU THE ONE TO IMPART YOUR WISDOM?
DON'T BE ABSURD.
AMANO-SAN'S FOCUS IS ALWAYS AWESOME— ♡
Are you free right now?
Hello Inamura-san?!
IT'S KINDA
BRILLIANT, HM? SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE'S HAVING FUN.
HMHH

GEEZ, IT TURNS OUT THAT I'VE RAISED YET ANOTHER SUPERIOR BUYER.
Hm...
Maruoka Textiles
丸岡繊維

SET...

PLEASE LEND US SOME OF YOUR POWER FOR THE NEW MATSUKOSHI IF WE DON'T HAVE YOU, MARUOKA-SAN, THIS PROJECT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PROCEED

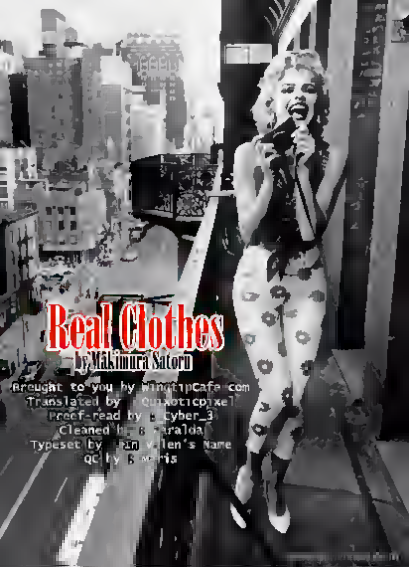
THIS SUMMER— THANKS TO MATSUKOSHI CUTTING US, MY COMPANY'S EYES WERE OPENED.
WE TRIED TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS OURSELVES.
SECURE OUR SELF-RELIANCE AS A COMPANY. ESTABLISH OUR OWN INDIVIDUALITY. CHALLENGE OURSELVES.
IT WAS CHAOTIC, BUT EVERY SINGLE EMPLOYEE EXPRESSED EAGERNESS
THE ONE WHO REVIVED OUR SPIRITS WAS MATSUKOSHI.
WE DEFINITELY WANT TO BE ALLOWED TO TAKE PART IN THE FIGHT FOR THE NEW MATSUKOSHI.


INAMURA-SAN'S BLOUSE IS FROM OUR SPRING/SUMMER ITEMS— AMANO-SAN IS THE MOMOTA 501, CORRECT?
YES!
I'M GETTING COMPLIMENTS FROM EVERYONE

THAT MAKES ME HAPPY
THANK YOU.

FIRST, I WANT THE "TRUE INDIGO" DENIM ORTHODOX AND BASIC.
EH!
I WANT TO START BUZZ AMONG WOMEN THAT "THOSE JEANS ARE COOL."
"JEANS TO BE RAISED," "ECO-FRIENDLY," COOL
GRR!
...!

End of Chapter 63

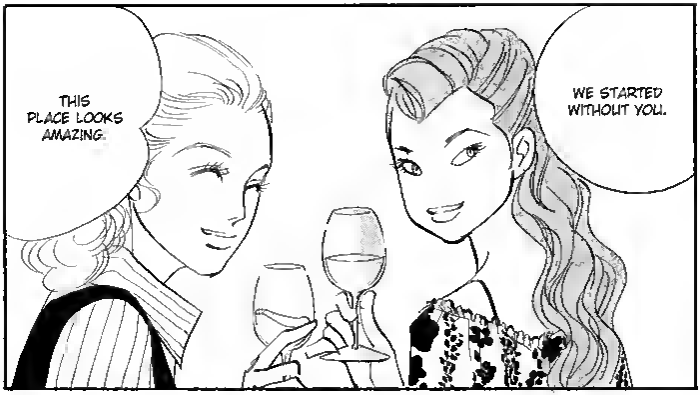

Real Clothes
by Makimura Satoru
Brought to you by MangaTipCafe.com
Translated by Quixotic Pixel
Proof-read by Cyber_3
Cleaned by Geraldo
Typeset by Han Wellen's Name
QC by Sorris

Real Clothes

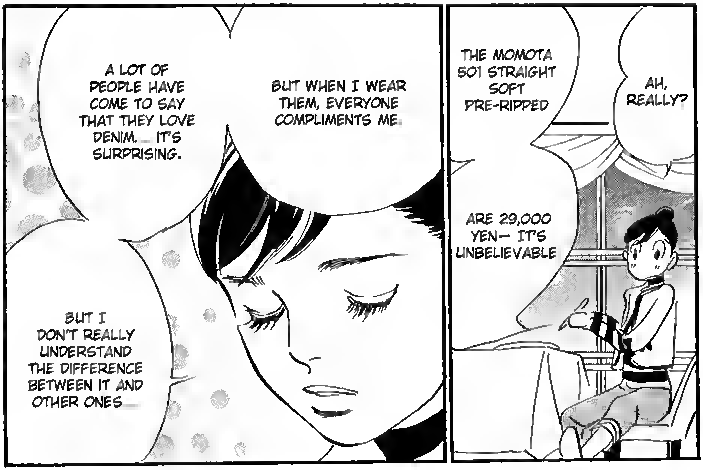
Chapter 64

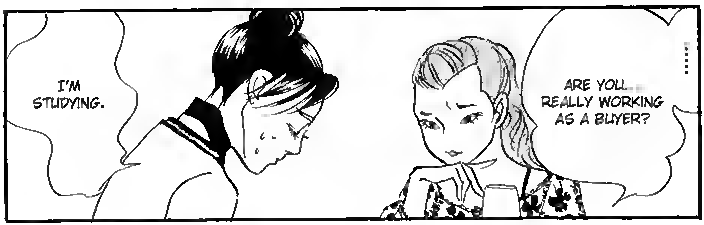
CLOTHES THAT YOU WEAR ALMOST EVERY DAY, SO OBVIOUSLY YOU HAVE A LOT OF THEM AROUND.
THAT'S NICE AND ALL, BUT... WHAT IS DENIM, ANYWAY?
DENIM FOR OVER-60S.
CLOTHES FOR MEN AND WOMEN OF ALL AGES.
COLLABORATIONS WITH TOP-BRANDS.
BUT AT THE VERY CORE . I DON'T REALLY KNOW MUCH ABOUT IT.

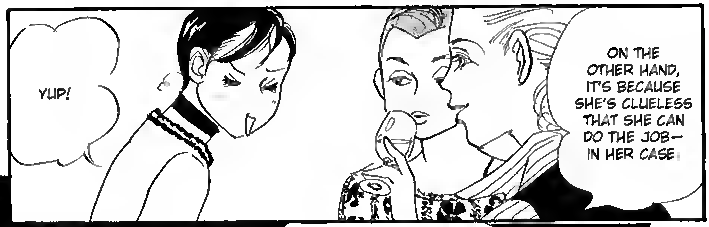
SORRY I'M LATE
I'LL ASK THE WESTERN CLOTHES GURUS!
IRASSHAI-MASE~
ANTICA
SINCE 1991


THIS PLACE LOOKS AMAZING.
WE STARTED WITHOUT YOU.

PLEASE, HELP YOURSELVES TO WHATEVER YOU WANT TO EAT.
IN EXCHANGE, PLEASE BESTOW ON ME YOUR HONORABLE KNOWLEDGE.
YES! SHE SAID IT!
MAYBE SOME ABALONE?
I'M HAVING OSAKA BEEF ♡
WHOA~ STOP!
THOSE JEANS ARE A SURE THING


A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE COME TO SAY THAT THEY LOVE DENIM... IT'S SURPRISING.
BUT WHEN I WEAR THEM, EVERYONE COMPLIMENTS ME.
BUT I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN IT AND OTHER ONES...
THE MOMOTA 501 STRAIGHT SOFT PRE-RIPPED
ARE 29,000 YEN— IT'S UNBELIEVABLE
AH, REALLY?

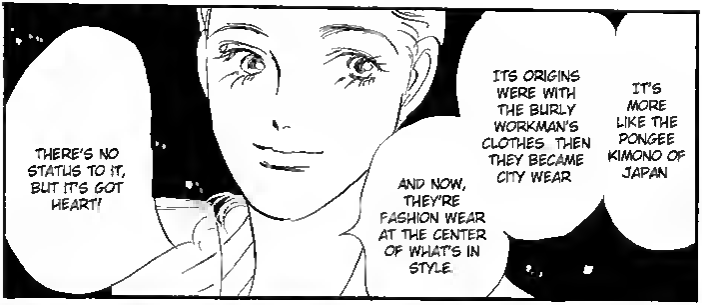


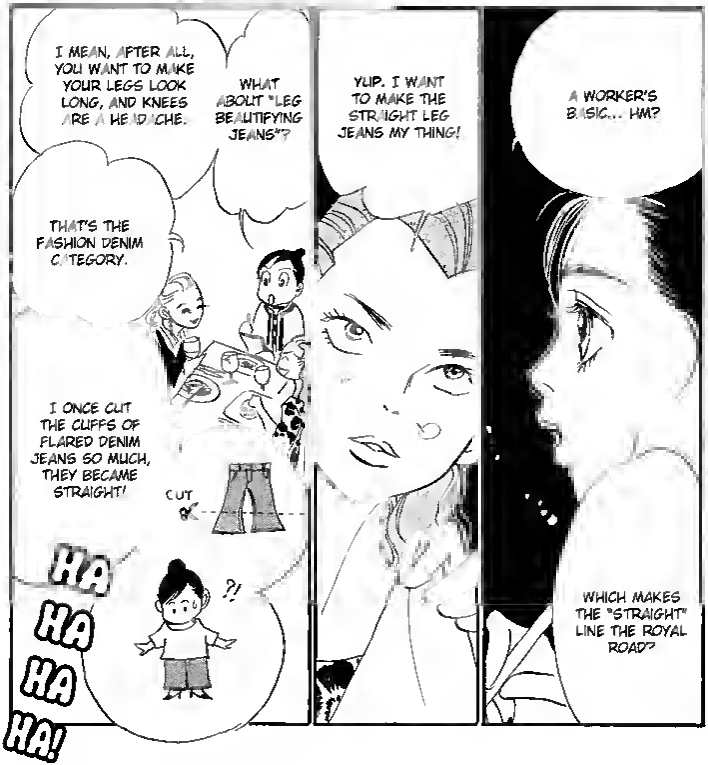


—SO, WHAT IS DENIM?

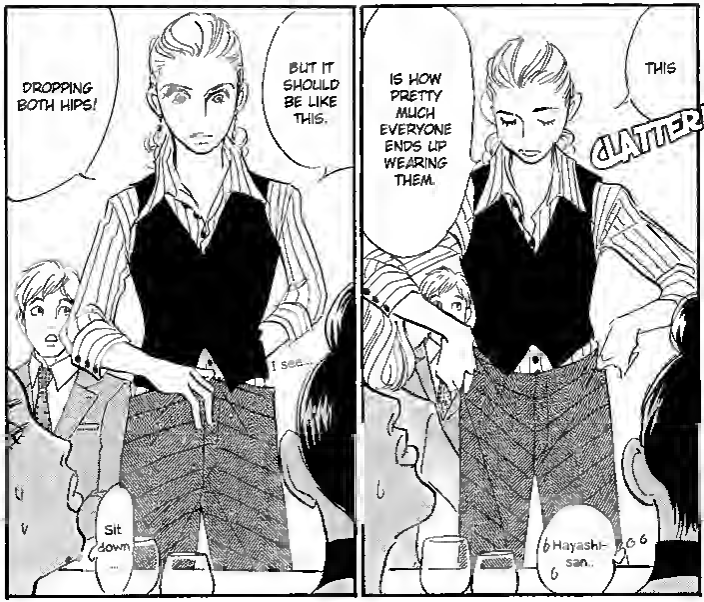
JUST TELL ME ALREADY!
HOW~ SWEET. A QUESTION THAT SHOWS YOU KNOW ABSOLUTELY ZIP.
THEY WERE ORIGINALLY MADE AS WORK WEAR, AS PANTS MADE OF DENIM FABRIC BY THE LEVI'S COMPANY.
IT WAS A BASIC OF THE WORKING CLASS— TOGETHER WITH A T-SHIRT OF THE SAME VALUE.
GUN MAN
COW BOY
?!
THE PROTOTYPE FOR THE MODERN JEANS, SO TO SPEAK, IS THE LEVI'S 501 MODEL.

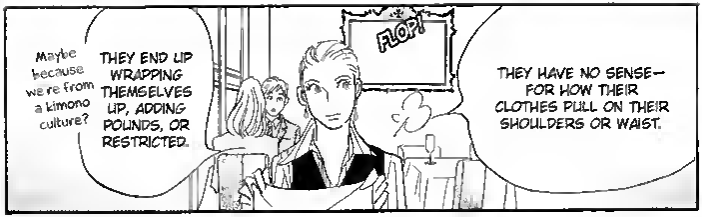
Real Clothes 9


THERE'S NO STATUS TO IT, BUT IT'S GOT HEART!
AND NOW, THEY'RE FASHION WEAR AT THE CENTER OF WHAT'S IN STYLE
ITS ORIGINS WERE WITH THE BURLY WORKMAN'S CLOTHES. THEN THEY BECAME CITY WEAR
IT'S MORE LIKE THE PONGEE KIMONO OF JAPAN

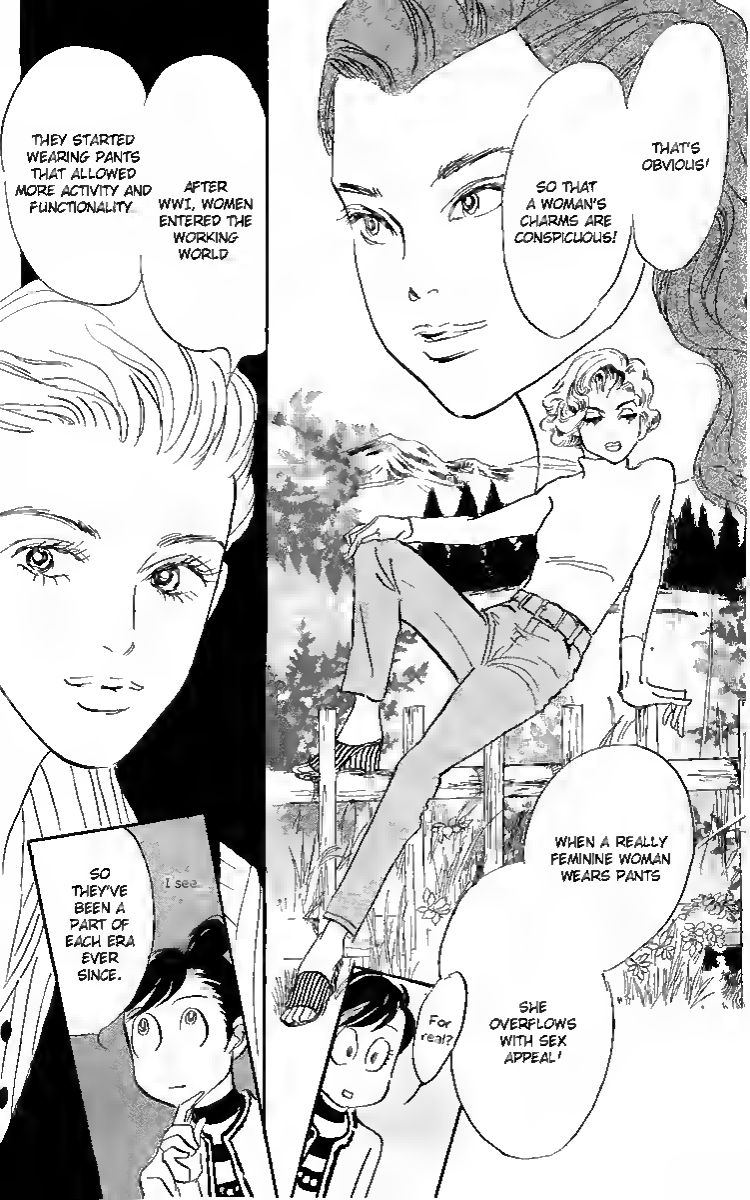

I MEAN, AFTER ALL, YOU WANT TO MAKE YOUR LEGS LOOK LONG, AND KNEES ARE A HEADACHE.
WHAT ABOUT "LEG BEAUTIFYING JEANS"?
THAT'S THE FASHION DENIM CATEGORY.
I ONCE CUT THE CUFFS OF FLARED DENIM JEANS SO MUCH, THEY BECAME STRAIGHT!
CUT
HA HA HA HA!
?!
YUP. I WANT TO MAKE THE STRAIGHT LEG JEANS MY THING!
A WORKER'S BASIC... HM?
WHICH MAKES THE "STRAIGHT" LINE THE ROYAL ROAD?

HEEEEE
COLLECTIVELY
AND THEN I THOUGHT SOMETHING WAS OFF, BUT I WORE THEM TO WORK.
BUT THEN A SCRAP OF THE CUFF FELL OUT OF MY BACK POCKET
AT THE STATION
You dropped something!
WHY DID HE RETURN THE SCRAP OF CLOTH? I DIDN'T EVEN WANT TO LOOK AT IT.
It just re-affirms how short my legs are.
DOES IT MEAN— I USE MY ALLOTTED CLOTH PROPERLY?
AH HA HA HA
ON THE SALES FLOOR, I SOMETIMES WONDER
THAT THERE'S NO EDUCATION ABOUT PANTS
Ended up with seafood— squid and scorpionfish.


DROPPING BOTH HIPS!
BUT IT SHOULD BE LIKE THIS.
I see...
Sit down...
THIS
CLATTER!
IS HOW PRETTY MUCH EVERYONE ENDS UP WEARING THEM.
Hayashi-san..

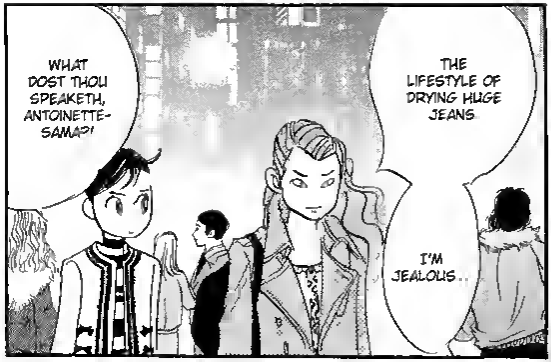

Maybe because we're from a kimono culture?
THEY END UP WRAPPING THEMSELVES UP, ADDING POUNDS, OR RESTRICTED.
FLOP!
THEY HAVE NO SENSE— FOR HOW THEIR CLOTHES PULL ON THEIR SHOULDERS OR WAIST.

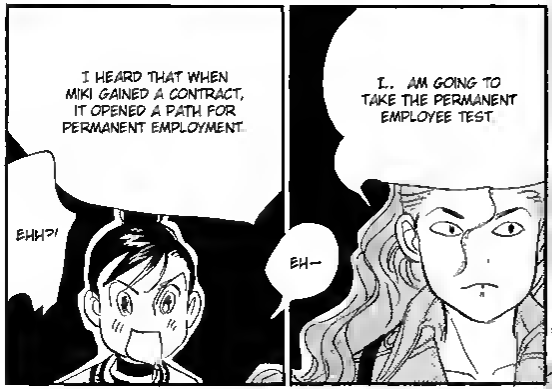
Don't say pants— say trousers!
WHEN AND WHY DID WOMEN START WEARING THEM?
PANTS WERE ORIGINALLY FOR MEN, RIGHT?

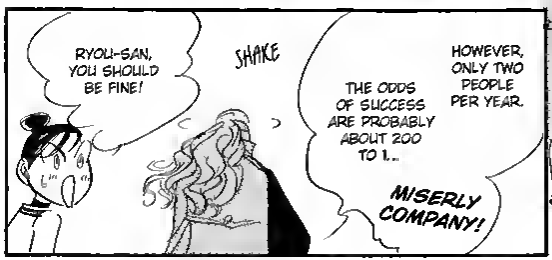

THEY STARTED WEARING PANTS THAT ALLOWED MORE ACTIVITY AND FUNCTIONALITY
AFTER WWI, WOMEN ENTERED THE WORKING WORLD
SO THEY'VE BEEN A PART OF EACH ERA EVER SINCE.
I see.
THAT'S OBVIOUS!
SO THAT A WOMAN'S CHARMS ARE CONSPICUOUS!
WHEN A REALLY FEMININE WOMAN WEARS PANTS
SHE OVERFLOWS WITH SEX APPEAL!
For real?

Real Clothes 9

I WASH THE JEANS OF THE GUY I'M LIVING WITH, AND SOMETIMES THEY BREAK DOWN THE MOTOR IN THE WASHING MACHINE.
JEANS ARE MORE REALISTIC CLOTHING, RATHER THAN PART OF A FANTASY. BESIDES, THEY'RE HEAVY...
I WASH THEM WHEN I ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO, AND EVEN THEN I DO IT UNWILLINGLY.
IT'S A BASIC RULE NOT TO WASH THEM— MINE, AT LEAST.
BUT THEY REEK!
YEAH, AND ON TOP OF THAT, HE YELLED, "WHY DID YOU WASH THEM!" AND WE ENDED UP FIGHTING.
WHAT?!
WHAT IS THIS? THIS IS EXCITING NEWS. ARE HIS JEANS JUST REALLY BIG?
WHA
TP!

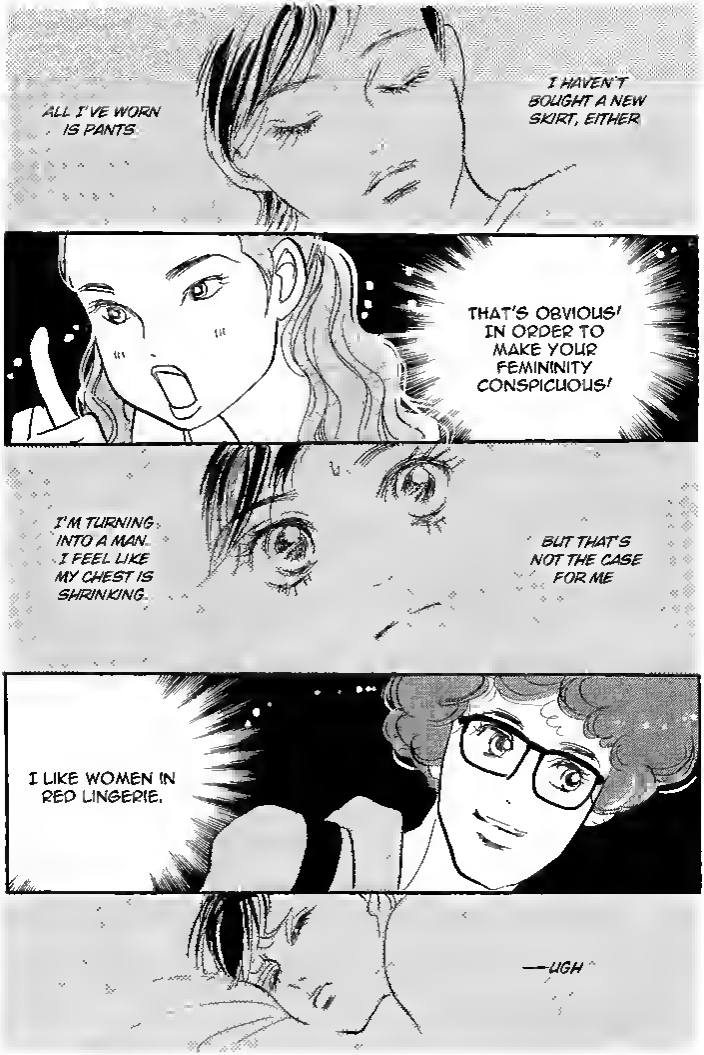

WHAT DOST THOU SPEAKETH, ANTOINETTE-SAMA?!
THE LIFESTYLE OF DRYING HUGE JEANS.
I'M JEALOUS..


I HEARD THAT WHEN MIKI GAINED A CONTRACT, IT OPENED A PATH FOR PERMANENT EMPLOYMENT.
EHH?!
I.. AM GOING TO TAKE THE PERMANENT EMPLOYEE TEST.
EH—


RYOU-SAN, YOU SHOULD BE FINE!
SHAKE
THE ODDS OF SUCCESS ARE PROBABLY ABOUT 200 TO 1..
HOWEVER, ONLY TWO PEOPLE PER YEAR.
MISERLY COMPANY!

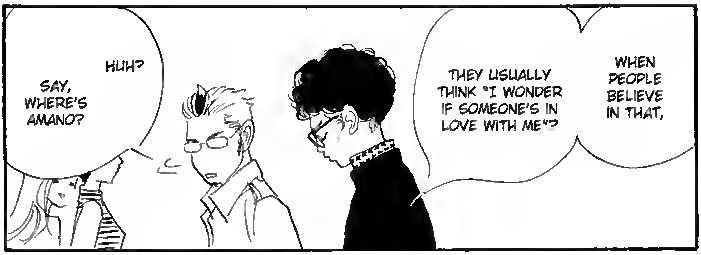
I DON'T WANT THAT.
YOU CAN MAKE IT FOR YOURSELF— A SWEET INTERIOR DESIGN OF YOUR HEART'S DESIRE.
I'LL SHRIVEL!
IT'S LIKE, I DON'T WANNA BE ALONE TOO MUCH!
WHAT WILL I DO IF I END UP LIKE MIKI-SAMA?
DESPITE THIS MAIDENLY HEART— AH~ I DON'T LIKE THE ME THAT'S HEADING DEEPER INTO WORK.
Am I? All shriveled up?
THE WEDDING THAT GETS FURTHER AWAY.
WITH THE SWEET LIFESTYLE
SHOW ME WHAT YOU'D BE.
THEN BECOME HER.

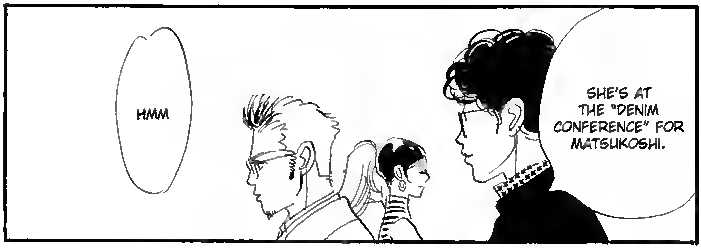
I— GUESS I AM AFTER ALL...
aura
SHINING, WEALTH, BEAUTIFUL BUTT
Oh! Oh! Ohhhh
I'M ALL DRIED UP..
WHERE DID THE CONDOMS EVEN END UP?
EVER SINCE I SEPARATED FROM TATSUYA, I HAVEN'T BOUGHT A MATCHING BRA AND PANTY SET.


ALL I'VE WORN IS PANTS.
I HAVEN'T BOUGHT A NEW SKIRT, EITHER
THAT'S OBVIOUS! IN ORDER TO MAKE YOUR FEMININITY CONSPICUOUS!
I'M TURNING INTO A MAN. I FEEL LIKE MY CHEST IS SHRINKING.
BUT THAT'S NOT THE CASE FOR ME
I LIKE WOMEN IN RED LINGERIE.
—UGH

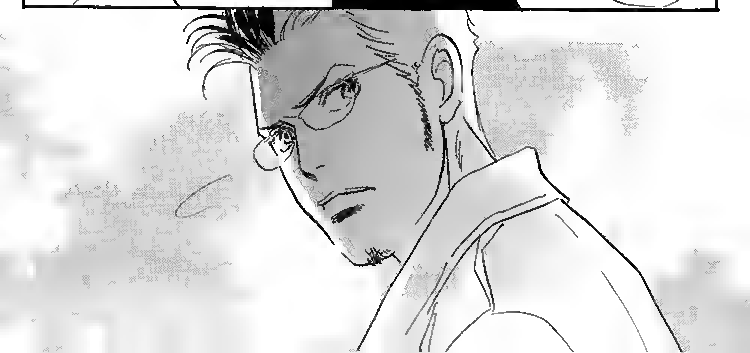
I...
WITHOUT A BOYFRIEND, IT'S RELAXING AND SELF-DIRECTED,
IF I HAVE A BOYFRIEND, IT'S A PAIN IN THE ASS, BUT I'M HAPPY.
THERE'S NO SET TIME TO CLEAN THE HOUSE.
I'M AWARE OF HIS HEART AND HIS TIME.
WONDER IF I COULD GET ANOTHER LOVER AGAIN?
I HAVE TOO MUCH FREEDOM AND IT GETS TEDIOUS.
I'M NOT AS FREE, BUT DINNERS ARE DELICIOUS.

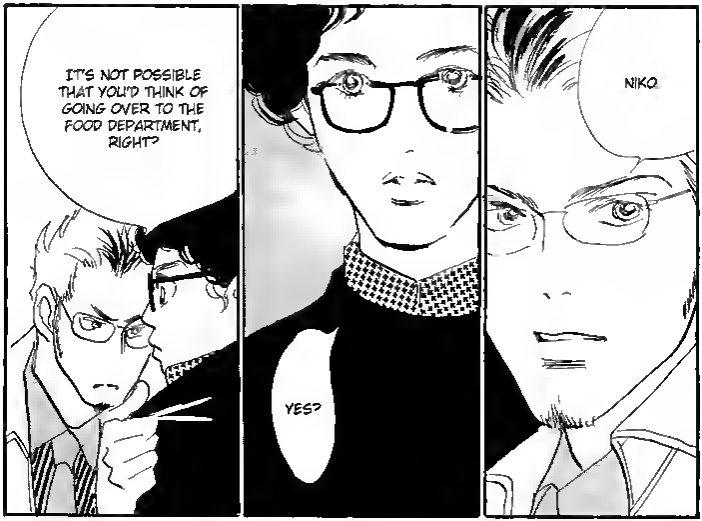
AH-
CHOO!
I WONDER WHERE HE IS AND WHAT HE'S DOING NOW?
GOT A COLD?
MUTTER MUTTER
PERHAPS I HAVE INCURRED SOMEONE'S WRATH AGAIN?
HURR HURR


HUH?
SAY, WHERE'S AMANO?
THEY USUALLY THINK "I WONDER IF SOMEONE'S IN LOVE WITH ME"?
WHEN PEOPLE BELIEVE IN THAT,


HMM
SHE'S AT THE "DENIM CONFERENCE" FOR MATSUKOSHI.

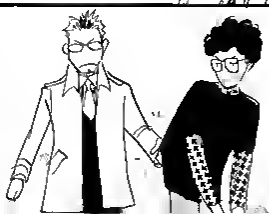
...
SHE'S ALREADY AN EXPERT. SHE'S WORKING MORE THAN ME.




IT'S NOT POSSIBLE THAT YOU'D THINK OF GOING OVER TO THE FOOD DEPARTMENT, RIGHT?
YES?
NIKO

.....

NO~!
If you really want me to go that badly I'll go



GRIND!
BOSS,
I HAVE SOME HOT KUDZU TEA— DO YOU WANT SOME?
GRUMBLE!
NO WAY!

◆ End of Chapter 64 ◆

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Real Clothes

by Makimura Satoru

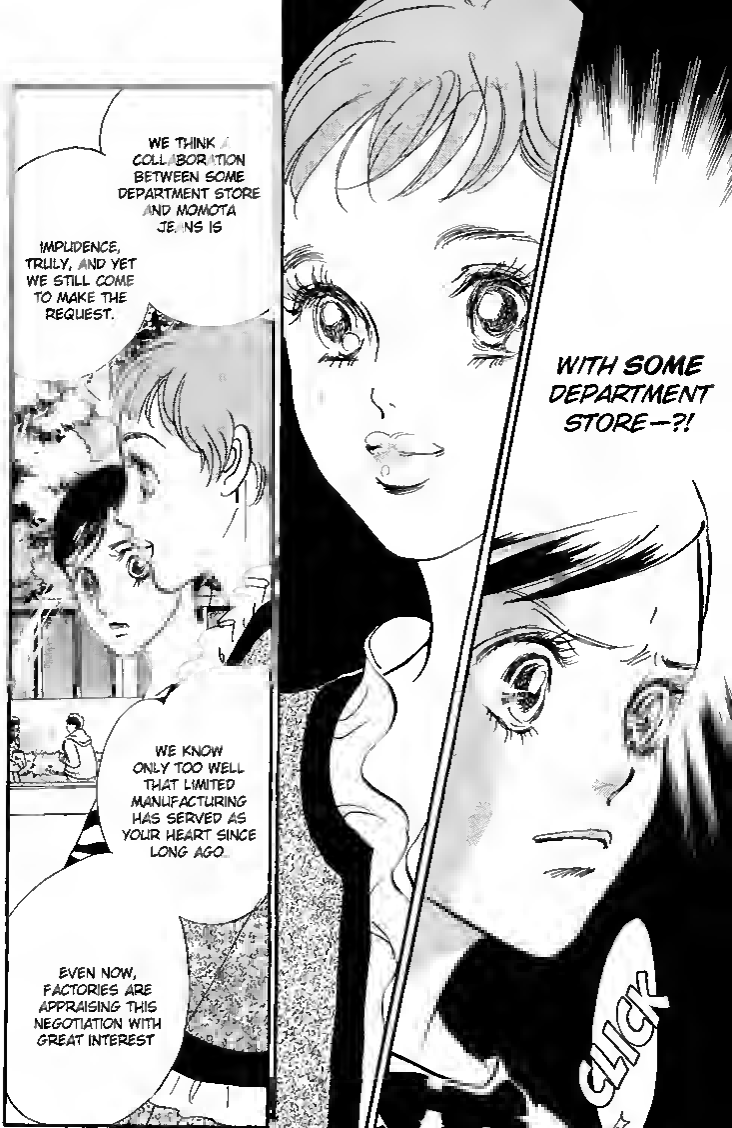
Real Clothes

Chapter 65

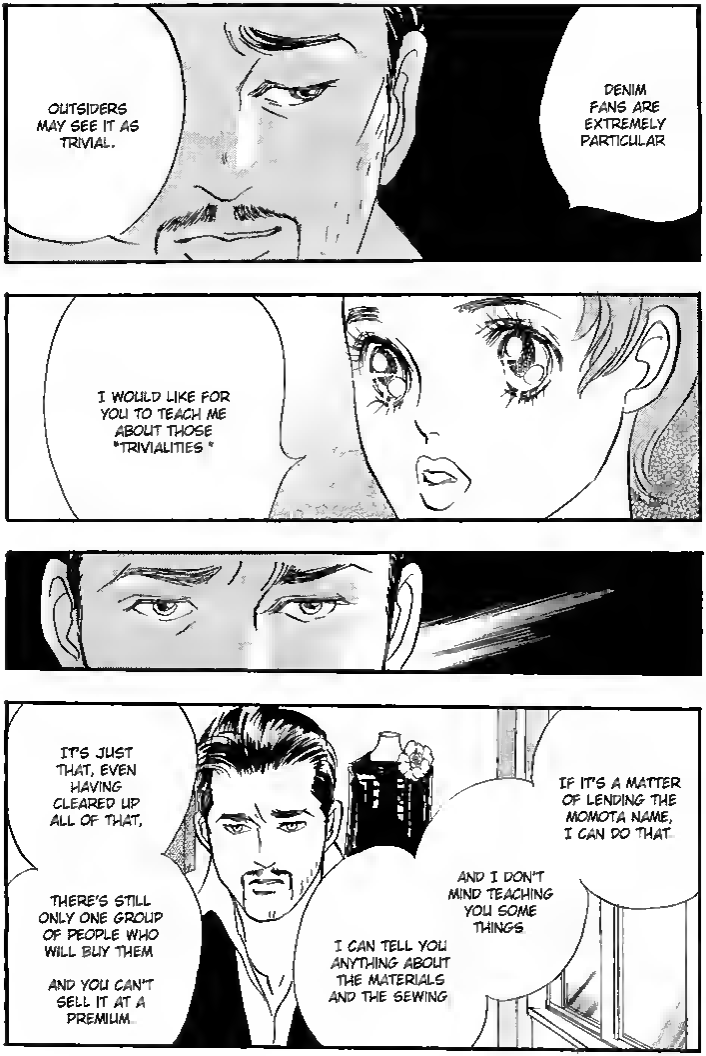
I'M AMANO.
I'M INAMURA.
VULGAR!
RESENTFUL!
TONIO FROM MOMOTA JEANS
PARDON MY RUDE LACK OF BUSINESS CARDS, IN ADDITION TO MY TARDINESS

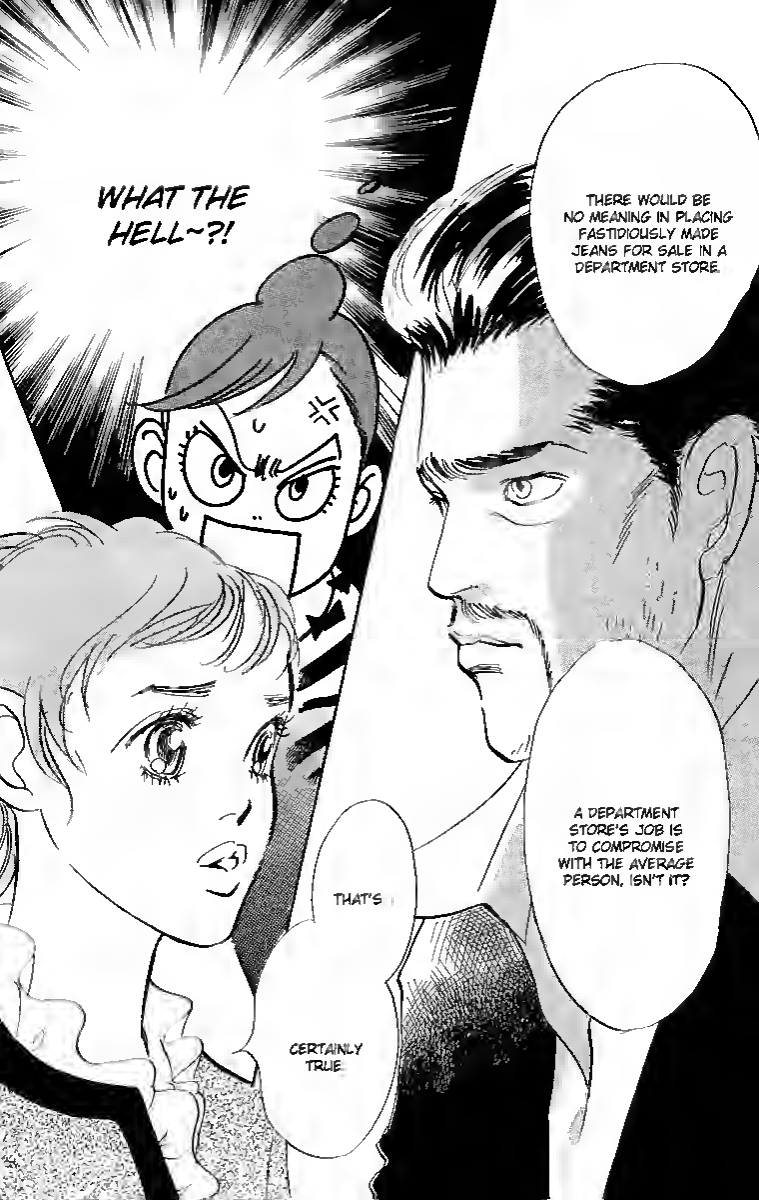
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
TUD
TO COME ALL THE WAY FROM OKAYAMA, WE THANK...
UM,
MAY I SMOKE?
YES?

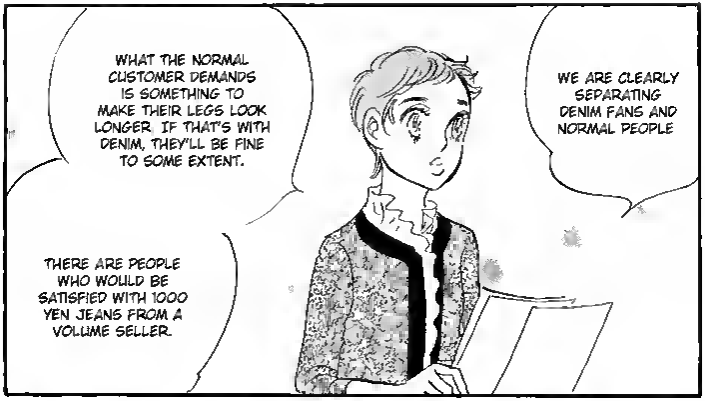
I WAS TOLD BY THE OLD MAN TO COME DOWN ALL OF A SUDDEN
AT THIS TIME, THE ORDER IS TO "GO AHEAD"
OF COURSE, I'LL GO AHEAD WITH IT,
BUT WHAT SHOULD I DO
WITH SOME DEPARTMENT STORE REPS?


WE THINK A COLLABORATION BETWEEN SOME DEPARTMENT STORE AND MOMOTA JEANS IS
IMPUDENCE, TRULY, AND YET WE STILL COME TO MAKE THE REQUEST.
WE KNOW ONLY TOO WELL THAT LIMITED MANUFACTURING HAS SERVED AS YOUR HEART SINCE LONG AGO...
EVEN NOW, FACTORIES ARE APPRAISING THIS NEGOTIATION WITH GREAT INTEREST
WITH SOME DEPARTMENT STORE—?!
CLICK

SCRATCH
THE BIGGER THE OPERATION, THE MORE DIFFICULT IT BECOMES FOR QUALITY CONTROL.
THAT IS THE POLICY OF MOMOTA, WHO TAKES PRIDE IN THEIR DENIM.
WE AREN'T BLIND TO THIS. THE EMPLOYEES ARE LIKE A SMALL FAMILY.
HE DOESN'T WANT TO DO THIS, BUT HE WAS TOLD TO COME..


OUTSIDERS MAY SEE IT AS TRIVIAL.
DENIM FANS ARE EXTREMELY PARTICULAR
I WOULD LIKE FOR YOU TO TEACH ME ABOUT THOSE "TRIVIALITIES."
IT'S JUST THAT, EVEN HAVING CLEARED UP ALL OF THAT,
THERE'S STILL ONLY ONE GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO WILL BUY THEM
AND YOU CAN'T SELL IT AT A PREMIUM.
I CAN TELL YOU ANYTHING ABOUT THE MATERIALS AND THE SEWING
AND I DON'T MIND TEACHING YOU SOME THINGS
IF IT'S A MATTER OF LENDING THE MOMOTA NAME, I CAN DO THAT.

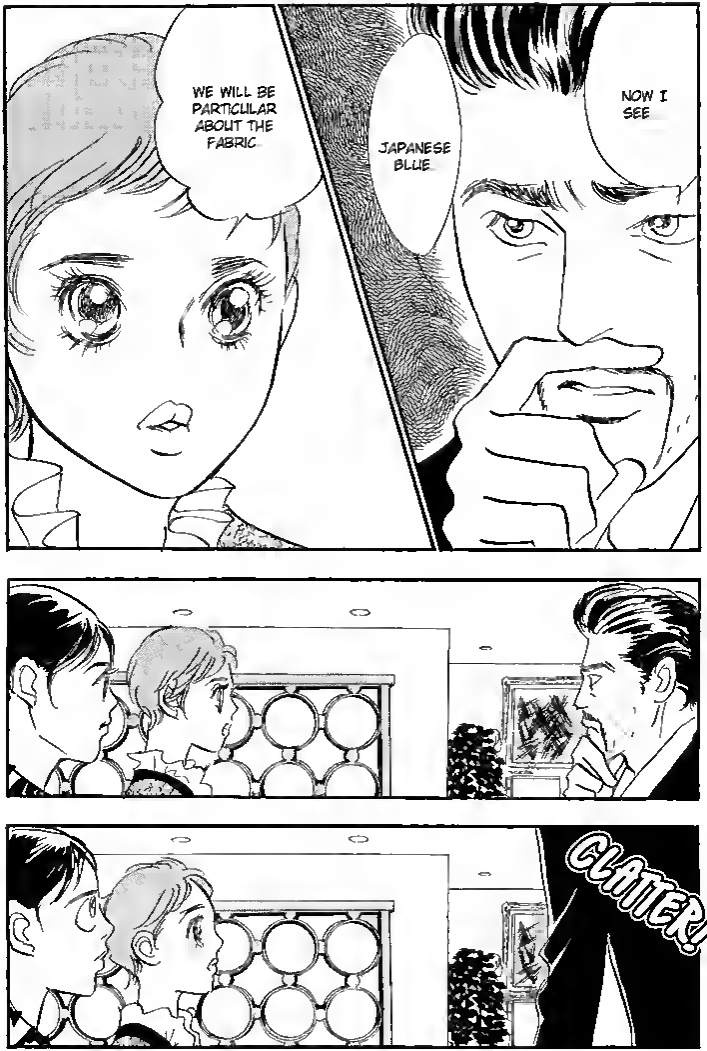

WHAT THE HELL~?!
THERE WOULD BE NO MEANING IN PLACING FASTIDIOUSLY MADE JEANS FOR SALE IN A DEPARTMENT STORE.
A DEPARTMENT STORE'S JOB IS TO COMPROMISE WITH THE AVERAGE PERSON, ISN'T IT?
THAT'S
CERTAINLY TRUE.

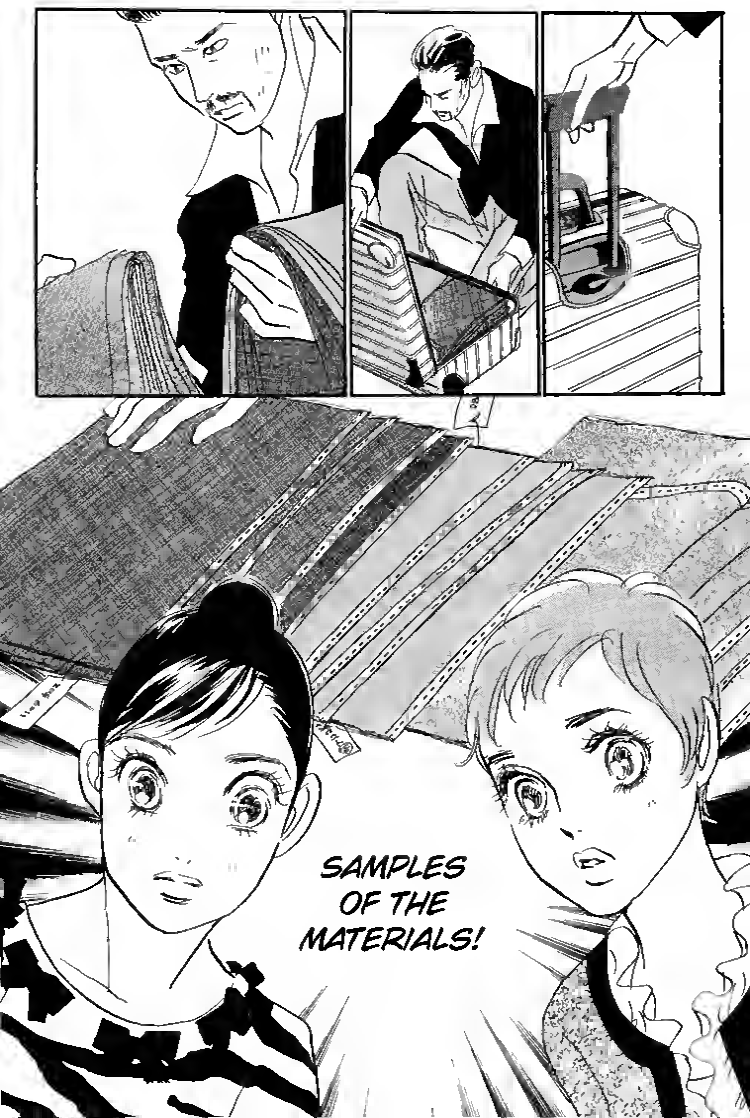

WHAT THE NORMAL CUSTOMER DEMANDS IS SOMETHING TO MAKE THEIR LEGS LOOK LONGER. IF THAT'S WITH DENIM, THEY'LL BE FINE TO SOME EXTENT.
WE ARE CLEARLY SEPARATING DENIM FANS AND NORMAL PEOPLE
THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO WOULD BE SATISFIED WITH 1000 YEN JEANS FROM A VOLUME SELLER.

1000 YEN...?

MATSUKOSHI WANTS TO DEVELOP JEANS THAT ARE DONE PROPERLY
THAT IS THE REASON WHY

WE ARE PLANNING FOR TWO TYPES OF JEANS. ONE WILL HAVE A FADED DYE
Ⓐ Replica Gray
Worn with pleasure to a fade
THE OTHER WILL BE JAPANESE BLUE— JEANS THAT ARE DYED THROUGH AND THROUGH WITH "TRUE INDIGO."
Ⓑ Japanese Blue
TRUE INDIGO... YOU SAY.
THE TRADITIONAL DYEING TECHNIQUES FOR WHICH JAPAN TAKES PRIDE
MIDDLE-AGED AND OLDER LADIES KNOW THE QUALITY OF TRUE INDIGO FROM THE KIMONO CULTURE
THE MATSUKOSHI REBRAND'S OVERALL THEME IS "MATSUKOSHI DOMESTIC," "JAPAN'S BEAUTY."


WE WILL BE PARTICULAR ABOUT THE FABRIC.
JAPANESE BLUE.
NOW I SEE.
CLATTER!


SAMPLES OF THE MATERIALS!

HUH?
WHICH OF THESE MATERIALS WILL YOU APPROVE?
Maruoka

GULP!
THIS MAN! IS HE TESTING US?!

COLOR? HOW SATURATED IS THE DYE?
THICKNESS?
TEXTURE?!

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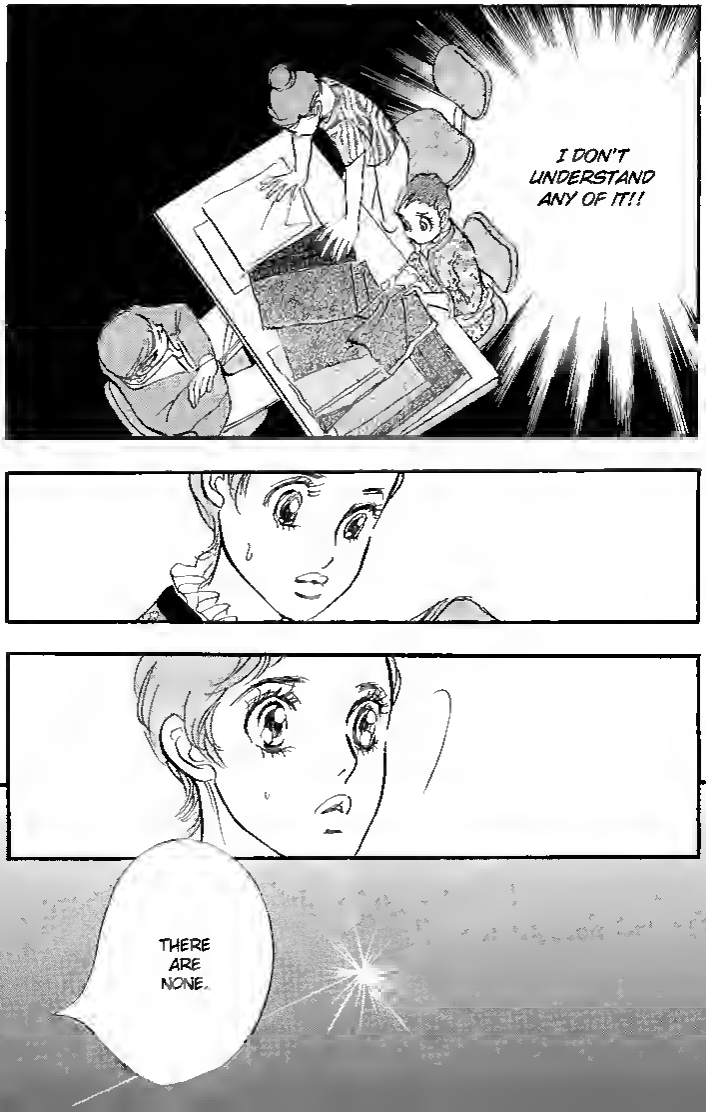
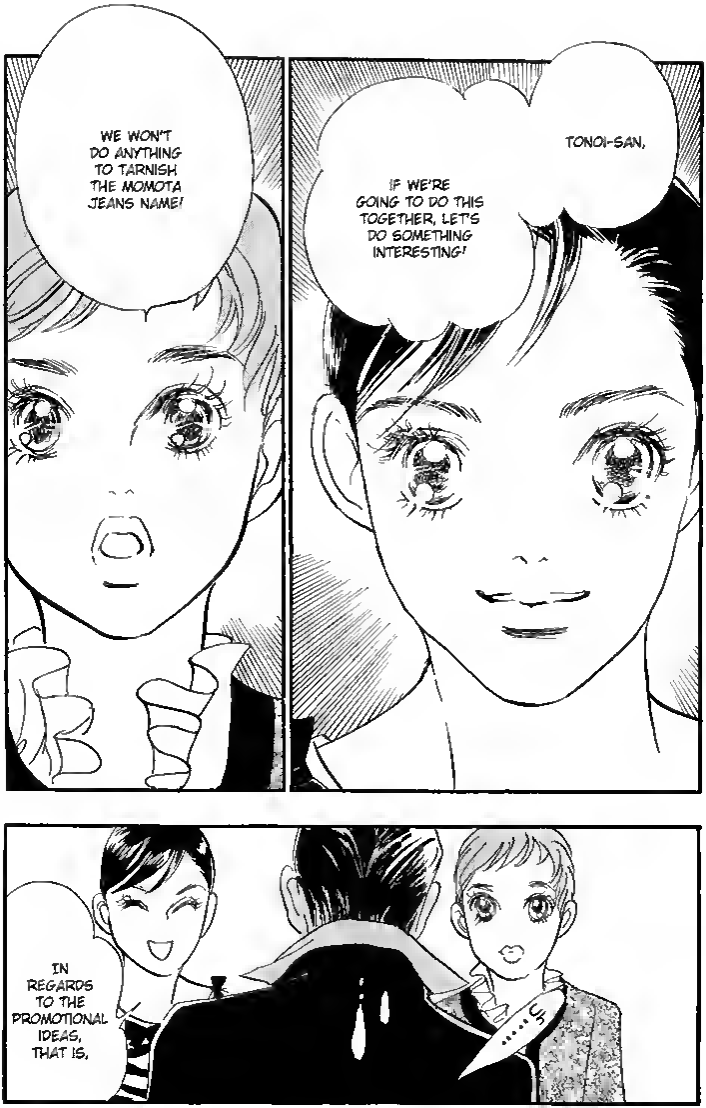


THE SELVEDGE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THIS RED...
THE WHOLE GARMENT SHOULD LEAVE THE IMPRESSION OF BEING PRESSED, BUT IT WON'T CHAFE OR FEEL VULGAR WHILE YOU'RE WEARING IT
WE WANT SOMETHING THAT "FEELS COARSE."

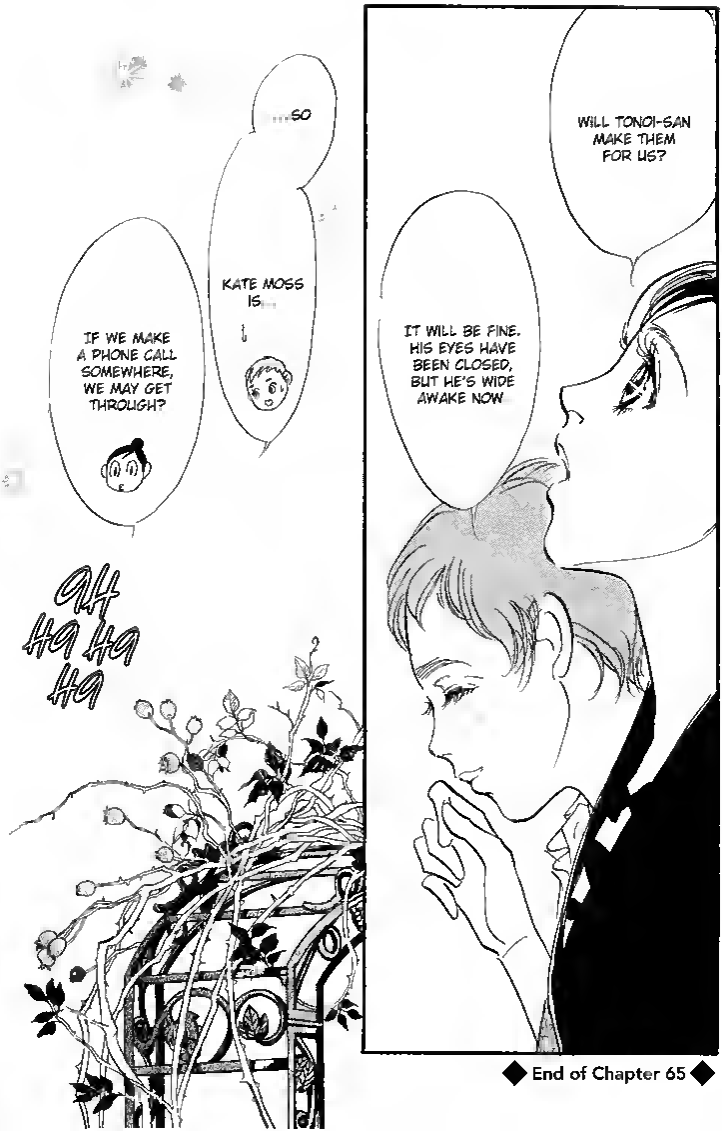
↑ Amano's and Inamura's business cards.


WE WON'T DO ANYTHING TO TARNISH THE MOMOTA JEANS NAME!
TONOI-SAN,
IF WE'RE GOING TO DO THIS TOGETHER, LET'S DO SOMETHING INTERESTING!
IN REGARDS TO THE PROMOTIONAL IDEAS, THAT IS,
...Uh

I WANT TO HAVE KATE MOSS WEAR MOMOTA.
KATE MOSS??
HEY!
I CAN'T MAKE ANY DEFINITE PROMISES!
AH HA HA HA HA
creative SP TAKE

EH~ I WAS ABOUT TO PUNCH HIS LIGHTS OUT
PARROT THINGS BACK AND MAKE SOUNDS OF AGREEMENT
A BASIC OF SERVING CUSTOMERS IS TO LISTEN ATTENTIVELY, AND THEN
I was walking on eggshells!
TO COAX SO RUGGEDLY HANDSOME AN OPPONENT SO DISMISSIVELY LIKE THAT!
INAMURA-SAN, YOU'RE AMAZING
PLEASE LEAVE THE HEARTS OF FANATICS TO ME
BESIDES, HE HAS DENIM MANIA
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S TRUE— AND
NO! IT WAS A BLUFF— YOU COULD CALL IT, BUT
MORE IMPORTANTLY, YOU'RE VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT DENIM MATERIALS YOU WERE REALLY COOL, AMANO-SAN

MOST LIKELY--
I THOUGHT TONOI-SAN HIMSELF WAS PROBABLY WEARING THE GREATEST OF ALL DENIM, SO
I COMPARED THEM TO HIS.
EHEHEH!
YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE!
PFT!
UGH~ I WAS SCARED STIFF~


WILL TONOI-SAN MAKE THEM FOR US?
IT WILL BE FINE. HIS EYES HAVE BEEN CLOSED, BUT HE'S WIDE AWAKE NOW
...SO
KATE MOSS IS...
IF WE MAKE A PHONE CALL SOMEWHERE, WE MAY GET THROUGH?
94 49 49 49

End of Chapter 65

Real Clothes

by Nakamura Satoru

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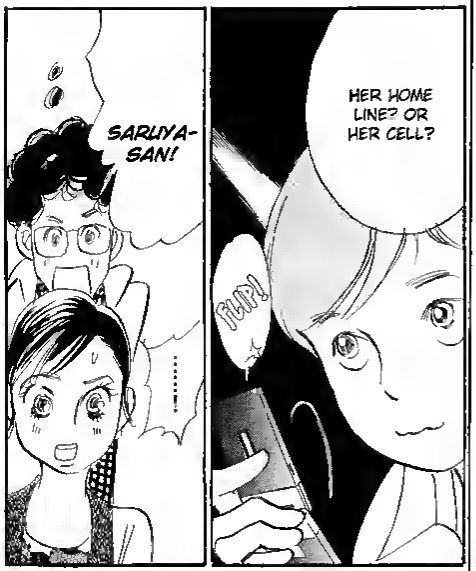
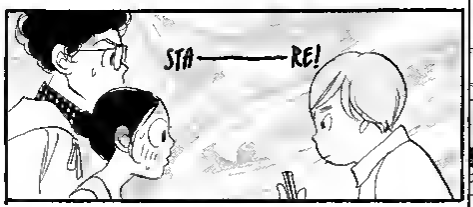
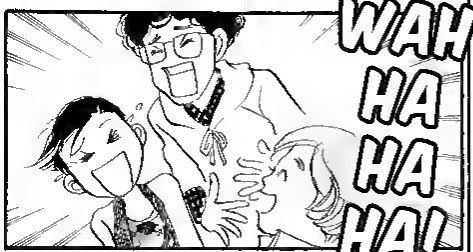
Chapter 66

Real Clothes


SARUYA-SAN!
.....
HER HOME LINE? OR HER CELL?
FUU!


STA——RE!


WAH HA HA HA!

KATE MOSS' PHONE NUMBER?

WELL,
WE'RE PLANNING A COLLABORATION BETWEEN MOMOTA JEANS AND SOME OF THE HIGH-END BRAND REPS.
WHY KATE?
I HALF-EXPECTED IT FROM YOU, BUT THERE'S NO WAY YOU'D REALLY HAVE IT, RIGHT?
MY HEART WAS RACING!
I THOUGHT IF KATE MOSS WOULD WEAR MOMOTA FOR US,
WE'D BE ABLE TO SELL IT ON A GLOBAL SCALE.
BUT RATHER THAN DO SOMETHING THAT WOULD BECOME A PAIN IN THE ASS,
HEH HEH HEH.
SOUNDS INTER-ESTING.
I ENDED UP SAYING SOME REALLY BIG IDEAS TO THE MOMOTA REP, AND THERE ARE APPEARANCES TO KEEP UP.

THANKS— SORRY FOR INTERRUPTING YOUR DATE—
I'M GOING BACK TO SQUARE ONE AND SWITCHING GEARS.
YEAH!
Hm?
HEY, YOU'LL PRETTY MUCH REACH YOUR DESTINATION IF YOU TURN THE NEXT THREE CORNERS.
AFTER THAT,
IT'S SAID THAT IF YOU CAN GET BETWEEN THOSE THREE PEOPLE, YOU'LL GET THROUGH TO THE PRESIDENT
SO THAT'S IT— IT'S AS SIMPLE AS THAT?
YUP.
IN SHORT... EVERYTHING'S CONNECTED IN THIS WORLD
THE KEY IS JUST WHETHER YOU HAVE THE SENSE TO LET THE ELECTRICITY FLOW— I GUESS?

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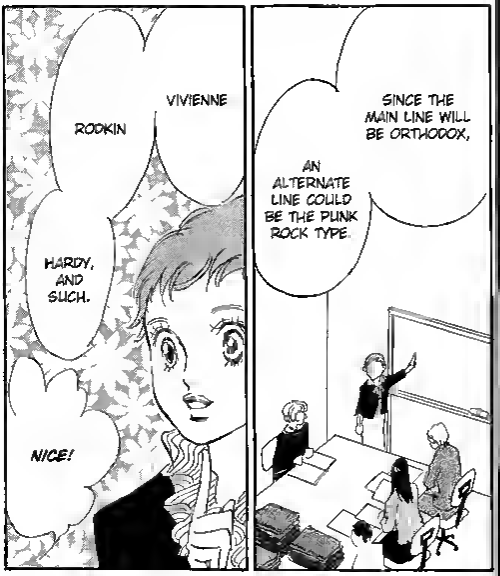
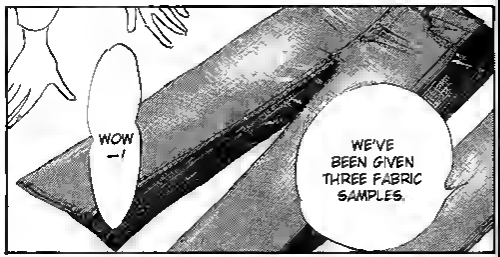
I GUESS IT'S LIKE EMOTIONS OR BEING IN LOVE?
THE ELECTRICITY HUH?
HOW ABOUT YOU, NIKO— THAT SEXY PERSON YOU'VE BEEN WALKING AROUND WITH LATELY.
CLICK!
LOVE..?
COUGH!
SARUYA-SAN, THAT'S A SECRET?
YUP.
IN EXCHANGE, INTRODUCE ME SOME DAY ♡

WILL WE BRING IT INTO MATSUKOSHI AS A HOUSE BRAND?
OR KEEP IT AS A BRAND THAT ISN'T IN-HOUSE?
HOLD ON TO YOUR DIGNITY!
DON'T SPACE OUT ABOUT WHAT A DREAM THIS IS.
THE STARTING LINE IS IN REALITY.


VIVIENNE
RODKIN
HARDY, AND SUCH.
NICE!
SINCE THE MAIN LINE WILL BE ORTHODOX,
AN ALTERNATE LINE COULD BE THE PUNK ROCK TYPE.

PLEASE DO SO.
I'LL TRY SOUNDING OUT THE REPS.

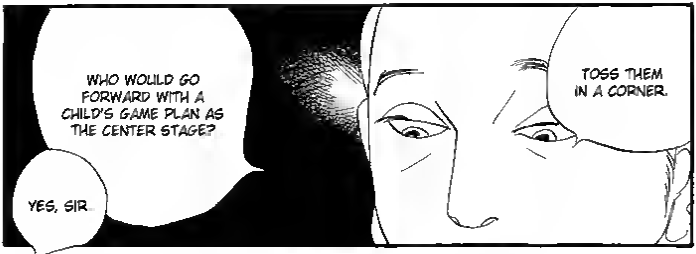

WOW —!
WE'VE BEEN GIVEN THREE FABRIC SAMPLES.

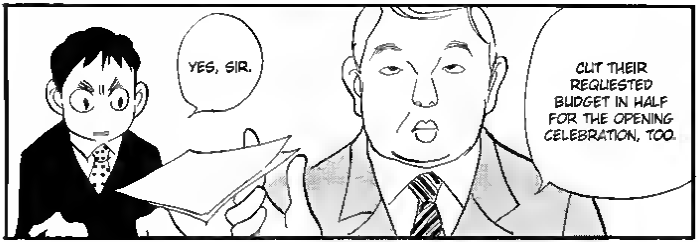
WILL WE COLLABORATE WITH OTHER VETERAN LABELS?
OR WILL WE ATTACH OURSELVES TO NEW BRANDS.
会議室
Conference Room
梅 UME

AMANO-SAN, HERE! WE TRIED MAKING PRODUCTS FROM THEM
A POUCH, A LAPTOP CASE,
ALL WITH MOMOTAROU LOGO
I WANT THEM~!!
I'M GETTING OVERHEATED—!

WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE CONTROL OF THE AREA IN FRONT OF THE ESCALATOR ON THE 4TH FLOOR
FOR THE MOMOTA DENIM DEBUT,
YOU ARE AWARE THAT THE 4TH FLOOR IS OUR "EXCELLENCE FLOOR"?
DENIM IS— "INDUSTRIAL WEAR," AS SUCH
DENIM...

HM—, THERE IS THAT~ AND THAT~
WE ALSO WILL HAVE A SMASHING PRE-OPEN PARTY.
WELL, WE COULD TRY IT, SEE IF IT SUCCEEDS.
PLEASE! MATSUKOSHI'S BEST AREAS MUST HAVE DENIM!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
SHUT...
BEYOND THAT, WE'LL HAMMER OUT ECHIZENYA'S STANCE!


WHO WOULD GO FORWARD WITH A CHILD'S GAME PLAN AS THE CENTER STAGE?
YES, SIR.
TOSS THEM IN A CORNER.


YES, SIR.
CUT THEIR REQUESTED BUDGET IN HALF FOR THE OPENING CELEBRATION, TOO.

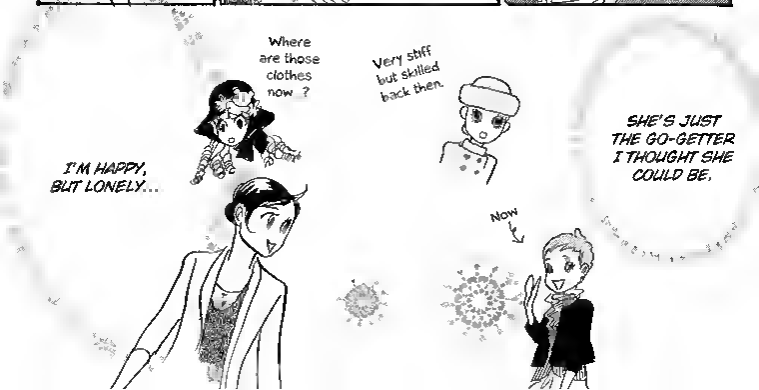
DON'T CONTACT OUR MOST VALUABLE VIP CUSTOMERS.
IF THEY SAW IT, IT WOULD BE AN EMBARRASSMENT.

YES, SIR.
SHOT!

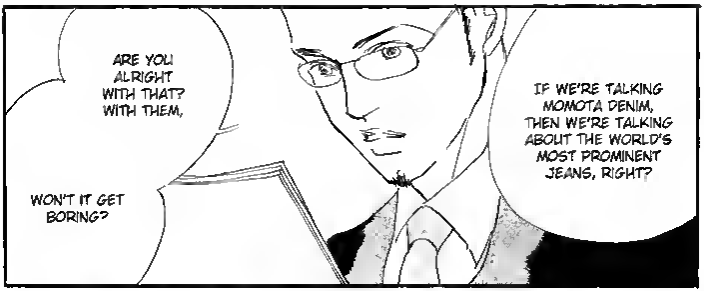
THERE ARE MANY TYPES OF SEWING MACHINES USED TO STITCH JEANS
THE MORE I FIND OUT, EVEN ABOUT THE STITCHING, THE MORE INTERESTED I BECOME IN FINDING OUT MORE.
AT MOMOTA, THEY HAVE A MACHINE CALLED THE "U SPECIAL"— IT'S GOT A STITCH WITH FLAIR!
IT WAS FUN JUST TO LISTEN TO THE PROFESSIONALS TALK SHOP.
IN NO TIME AT ALL, I ENDED UP SPENDING THE ENTIRE DAY THERE!
MAYBE I'LL GO TO OKAYAMA TOO.
NEXT WEEK, I'LL GO TAKE A FINAL BUSINESS TRIP TO CEMENT THE DETAILS
RIGHT—

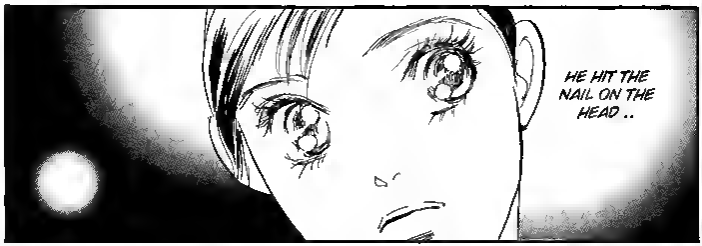
Real Clothes 9

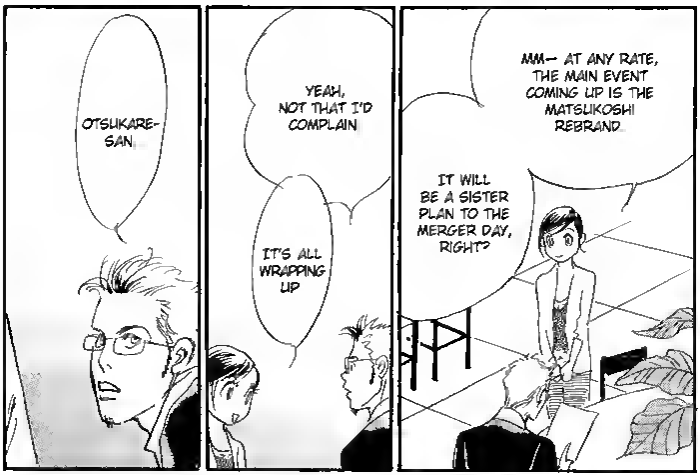
REALLY?
INAMURA-SAN.
I'LL BE FINE ON MY OWN
AMANO-SAN, YOU HAVE YOUR WORK OVER AT ECHIZENYA, AS WELL.
I CAN SPEAK FORCEFULLY ENOUGH AS I AM
Tee-Hee ♡


Where are those clothes now ?
Very stiff but skilled back then.
SHE'S JUST THE GO-GETTER I THOUGHT SHE COULD BE.
I'M HAPPY, BUT LONELY...
Now

I'VE GOT ONE LESS THING TO DO.
SCRATCH SCRATCH
A DENIM FAIR BETWEEN US AND MOMOTA?
THERE'D BE NO PROBLEM, BUT...?


ARE YOU ALRIGHT WITH THAT? WITH THEM,
WON'T IT GET BORING?
IF WE'RE TALKING MOMOTA DENIM, THEN WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THE WORLD'S MOST PROMINENT JEANS, RIGHT?

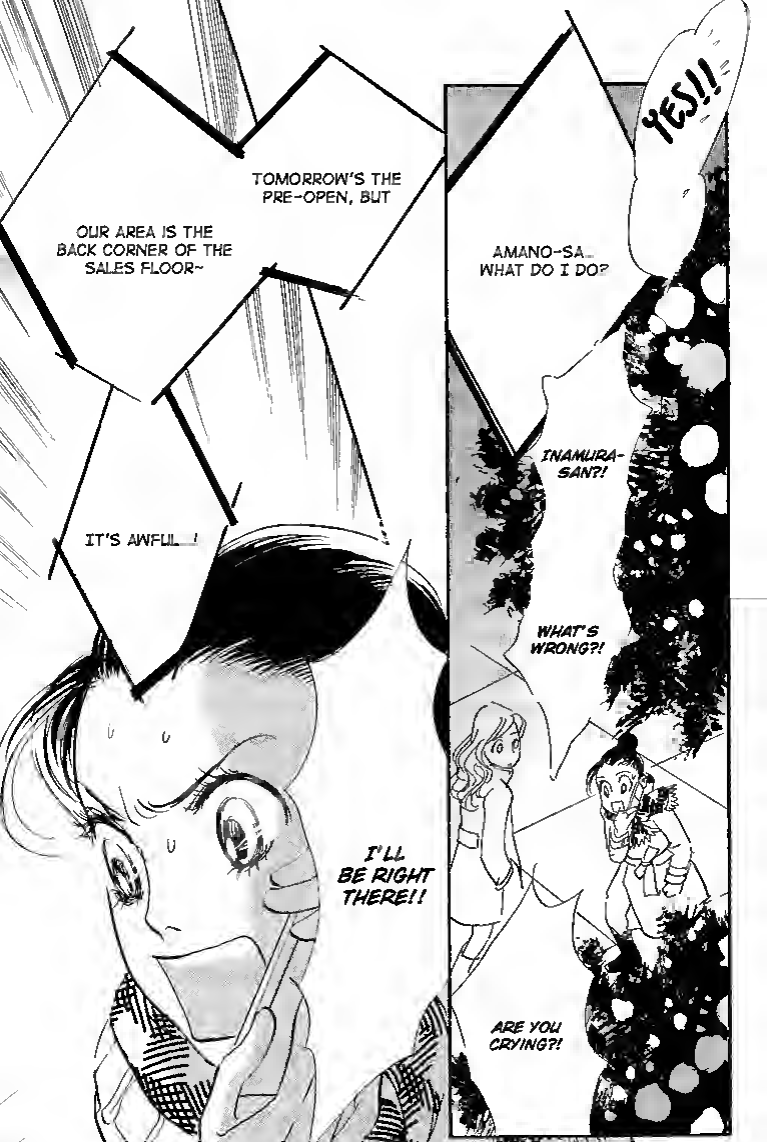

HE HIT THE NAIL ON THE HEAD ..


OTSUKARE-SAN.
YEAH, NOT THAT I'D COMPLAIN
IT'S ALL WRAPPING UP
MM-- AT ANY RATE, THE MAIN EVENT COMING UP IS THE MATSUKOSHI REBRAND
IT WILL BE A SISTER PLAN TO THE MERGER DAY, RIGHT?

ALRIGHT!
SLAP!
We could try buying up some more of the line
AYE AYE, CAPN!
HAVE YOU DECIDED ON THE SPECIAL LUCKY BAGS?
I FOUND AMANO-SAN!
AH—!
YES, YES!
AMANO-SAN, I NEED FIVE MINUTES— LOOK AT THIS!!

AMANO-SAN--!
YES--
WHERE'S AMANO--
YES-- I'M IN GINZA NOW~
YES! IT'S OKAY. OTSUKARE-SAMA
31 SAT
Jogging
Jogger Prep
PRESENTATION PREP WORK
GINZA TAKEYA
SPRING SEASON MEETING
ITALY PURCHASING MEETING
FACTORY MEETING
Spring Item Check
Flowers - Futaba-sensei's B-Day

WITH TATSUYA...
LAST CHRISTMAS, I HAD THE DUCK IN ORANGE SAUCE WITH A THICK~ CHOCOLATE CAKE.
WAS IT TWO YEARS AGO?!
HM?!
OR EVEN BEFORE THEN...?
AHH!
RIIIING!
Now's a good time
WHY DON'T I FINALLY JUST DELETE HIS NUMBER.



End of Chapter 66

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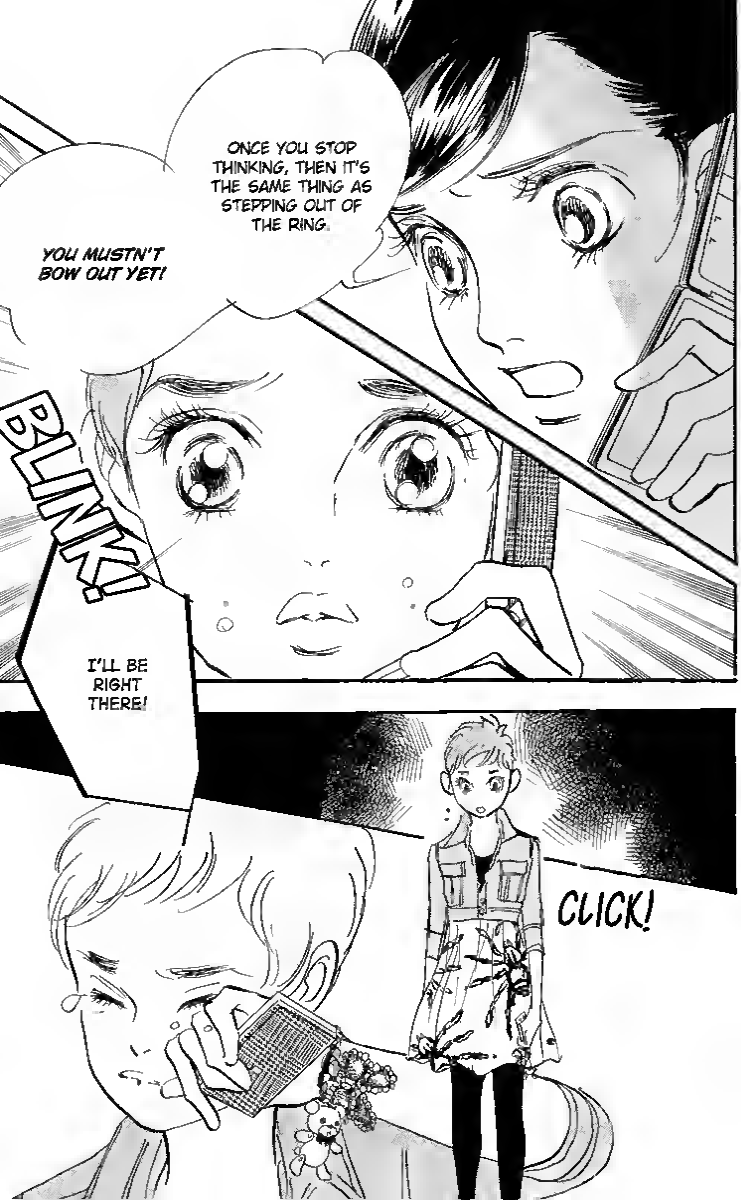
Real Clothes

by Makimura Satoru

Real Clothes

Chapter 67

INAMURA-SAN, YOU MUSTN'T CRY.
IF YOU CRY, YOU'LL GET EVEN MORE SAD AND THEN YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO THINK OF ANYTHING AT ALL
I WASN'T INFORMED OF ANYTHING UNTIL JUST NOW.
THE CORNER ALONG THE BACK STAIRS ON THE 4TH FLOOR...!
IT'S AWFUL...!


ONCE YOU STOP THINKING, THEN IT'S THE SAME THING AS STEPPING OUT OF THE RING.
YOU MUSTN'T BOW OUT YET!
BLINK!
I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!
CLICK!

THAT DIRTY SON OF A BITCH TAWARAYA!
WHAT THE HELL IS HE PLOTTING?!!
AN

(*T/N: Buta-man are steamed doughy buns with pork filling. Taiyaki is fried dough shaped like a fish and filled with bean...)

ALL THAT ASIDE. THIS REALLY IS IN A BACK CORNER.
RIGHT THEN, WHAT'LL WE DO?
WE NEED MARKERS TO GUIDE THE CUSTOMERS HERE FROM THE ELEVATOR
I'LL GO MAKE SOME SIGNS
LET'S HAVE MANNEQUINS POINT THE WAY
SEE HOW MANY YOU CAN ROUND UP
OKAY

WE MADE THESE— WITH ALL OUR HEARTS, AND STILL . .
WE DID OUR BEST FOR THE SAKE OF THE COMPANY, AND YET—
WHY?!
WAH!
WE HAVE TO MAKE THE PRODUCTS STAND OUT, SINCE THEY'RE CUTE!
SILENCE
GASP!

!
WHAT DO YOU WANT?

WE WANT TO COOPERATE WITH YOU.
THE DENIM FAIR IS THE FIRST STEP OF THE MATSUKOSHI REBRAND.
IF WE STUMBLE HERE, OUR MOMENTUM WILL FIZZLE OUT.
WE WANT TO MAKE THIS A SUCCESS.
THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE IN THIS COMPANY WHO THINK THE SAME WAY.

IS THIS WEIRD?
WEARING DENIM!
WE ALL WANT TO GUIDE THE CUSTOMERS
YES, IT IS.
IT'S WEIRD, BUT I'M HAPPY!

COME WHAT MAY, IF WE'RE GOING TO WEAR DENIM, I WANT TO PRESENT DIFFERENT MOMOTA ORIGINALS.
I SAW SOME OLD CLOTHES AT THE MOMOTA FACTORY.
I'LL GO BORROW THEM
PLEASE WAIT HERE— I'LL DEFINITELY MAKE IT BACK BY ONE IN THE MORNING!
EH?
I—
AM GOING TO HEAD OUT TO OKAYAMA
DASH!
INAMURA-SAN!
YOU'RE THE LEADER! IF YOU'RE NOT HERE, THEN—
COLLIDE!

THUD!

I'M SO SORRY THIS IS..
DESPITE THE PROMISE I MADE..
TONOI-S...
BUT
I HAVEN'T GIVEN UP YET.
I CAME TO CHECK OUT HOW THINGS ARE GOING...

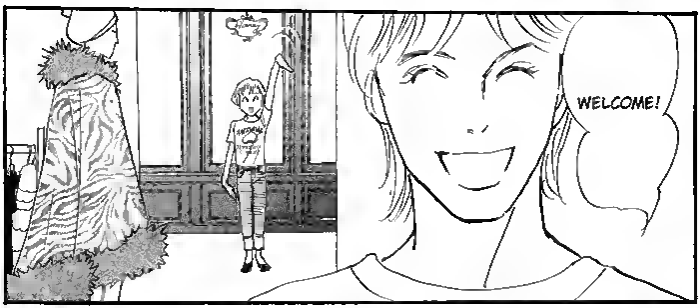
(*T/N: Oyassan's the Osaka term for a dad or a boss; similar to the term, "old man")

OYASSAN*, THIS IS TONOI. SORRY TO BOTHER YOU DURING YOUR DINNER.
I'M AT MATSUKOSHI DEPARTMENT STORE IN TOKYO RIGHT NOW.
I NEED A FAVOR.
YASUI-SAN AND YASUI-SAN'S SEWING MACHINE.
THE FOUNDER'S HOARD.
THE VINTAGE 501S.
THE MOUNTAIN OF OLD CLOTHES IN THE WAREHOUSE.
THOSE, AND MOMOTA T-SHIRTS.
THERE ARE SOME AT THE TOP OF MY LOCKER.
SMALL, MEDIUM, AND LARGE— ABOUT TEN OF EACH.
We made signs—!
MOMOTA DENIM FAIR

LOAD THEM UP AND SEND THEM HERE STRAIGHTAWAY, PLEASE
THE STORE OPENS AT--
DO
NG!
THE TIME IS NOW 10:00 IT IS TIME FOR MATSUKOSHI TO OPEN ITS DOORS.
STARTING TODAY, THE B1 FLOOR IS HAVING AN OBENTOU* FAIR
AND ON THE 4TH FLOOR, IT IS THE OPENING OF THE MOMOTA DENIM FESTIVAL.
DENIM

(T/N: Obentou, or bento, are boxed lunches.)

WELCOME TO MOMOTA!
IRASSHAIMASE!

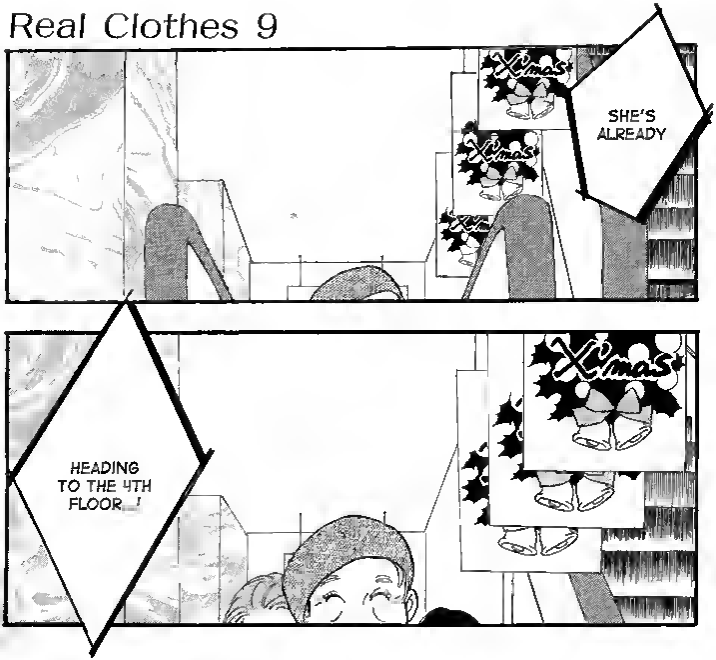

WELCOME!

INTERESTED
INTERESTED

YAY
YAY
YAY
WHAT IS ALL THIS?
桃太郎商会
Momotarou Company
Since 1930

THERE'S NO WAY YOU WOULD HAVE CALLED HER, RIGHT?!
I DIDN'T ...!!
CURRENTLY, TESHIGAWARA TAKAKO-SAMA IS ON HER WAY TO THE STORE.
EH?!
THIS IS AN EMERGENCY ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE ENTIRE BUILDING
PERK
PERK

I WOULD, BUT...!!
GET THE RED CARPET OUT NOW!!


SHE'S ALREADY
HEADING TO THE 4TH FLOOR...!

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
I BROUGHT SOME FRIENDS WITH ME
GOOD MORNING, TAKAKO-SAMA!
IRASSHAI-MASE.
I'M SO GLAD!
IT'S THANKS TO YOU THAT MY LOWER BACK HAS FAR LESS STRESS ON IT.
AMANO-SAN, HELLO. THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME.
OF COURSE I WILL!
PLEASE CHOOSE FUTONS FOR THESE LADIES LATER, AS WELL
SWEEP
GOOD MORNING, TAKAKO-SAMA!

◆ End of Chapter 67 ◆

Real Clothes

by Makimura Satoru

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Cleaned by : Paralda
Typeset by : In Valen's Name
QC by : Maris

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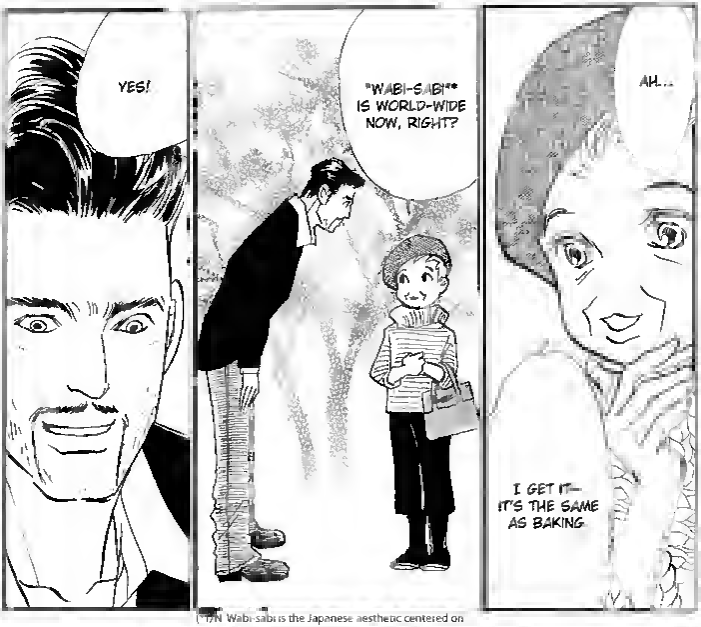
Real Clothes

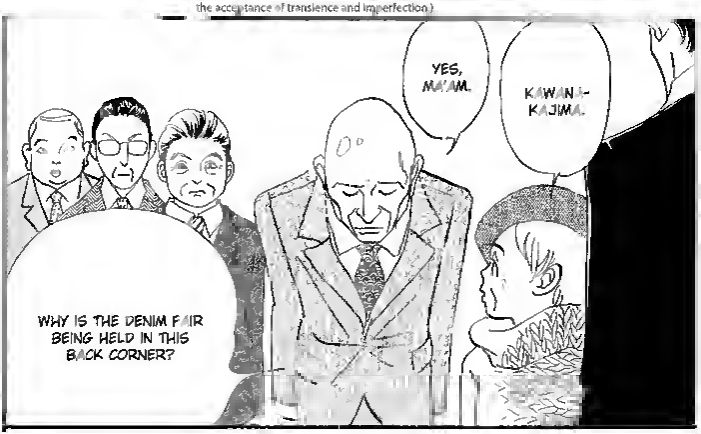
Chapter 68

I'M TONOI, FROM MOMOTA JEANS.
I WILL BE ESCORTING YOU.
BLU—SH

IT'S LIKE THEY SAY: "YOU RAISE DENIM."
EACH TIME YOU WEAR THEM, THERE'S GREATER LOVE AND SIGNIFICANCE. THEY ARE CLOTHES THAT BECOME YOUR OWN PERSONAL FIT.
ORIGINALLY, DENIM WAS SUPERFICIALLY DYED FOR MASS PRODUCTION AS WORK CLOTHES.
THE OWNER'S PERSONALITY COMES OUT WHEN THE COLOR FADES FROM USAGE, WHICH IS WHY THEY AREN'T DYED THROUGH AND THROUGH.



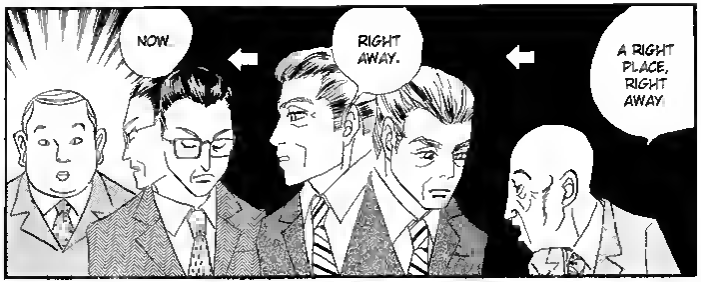
(*TN: Wabi-sabi is the Japanese aesthetic centered on the acceptance of transience and imperfection.)

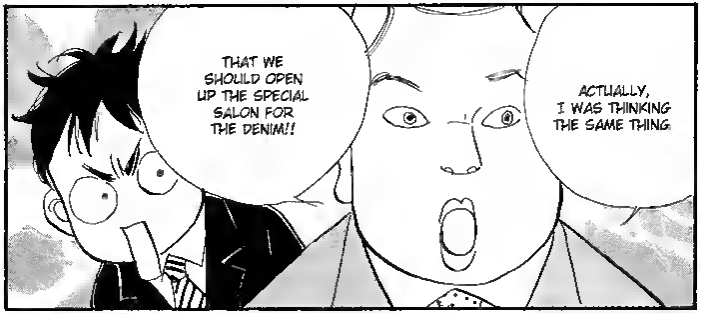


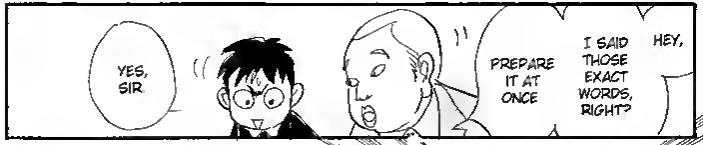
?
WHY?
WHY?

THERE ISN'T ANY PARTICULAR REASON

YOU MUST PLACE YOUR GOOD THINGS PROPERLY IN THE RIGHT PLACES.


NOW.
RIGHT AWAY.
A RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT AWAY.


THAT WE SHOULD OPEN UP THE SPECIAL SALON FOR THE DENIM!!
ACTUALLY, I WAS THINKING THE SAME THING.

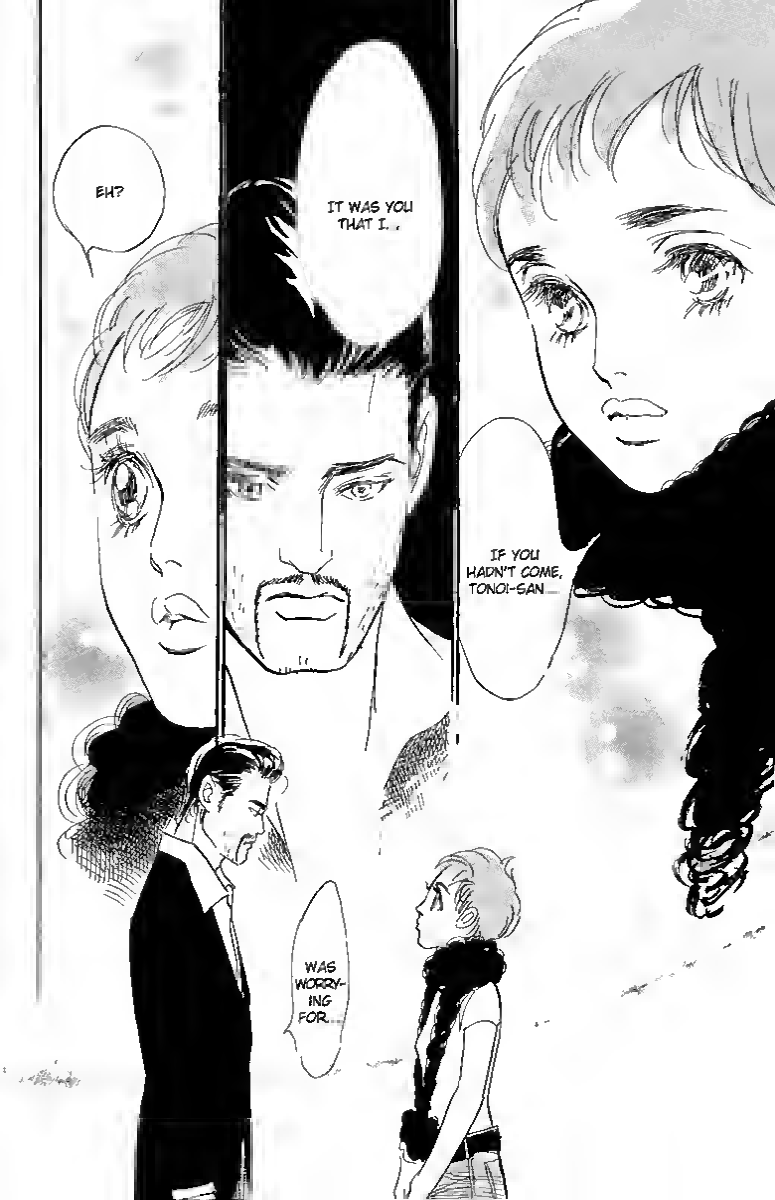

YES, SIR.
PREPARE IT AT ONCE
I SAID THOSE EXACT WORDS, RIGHT?
HEY,

AT TAKAKO-SAMA'S WORD ALONE~!!

SMILE!
THAT'S GREAT. I'LL PROMOTE THIS AS WELL.
EXCUSE ME,
THIS IS
DENIM'S
IT MAY BE ARROGANT OF US TO CALL IT "EDUCATING OUR CUSTOMERS,"
BUT WE MADE THEM SO THAT OUR PRODUCTS COULD BE BETTER KNOWN AND LOVED
THE DENIM PAMPHLET AND PANTS INFORMATION BOOKLET WE MADE
IT'S TIMES LIKE THIS THAT MAKE ME THINK IT'S GOOD TO BE ALIVE

YES,
INDEED!!
WITH PEOPLE LIKE THESE AT MATSUKOSHI, EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE
YOUNG PEOPLE IMPRESS ME SO.
THEY CALL TO THE YOUTH INSIDE ME.

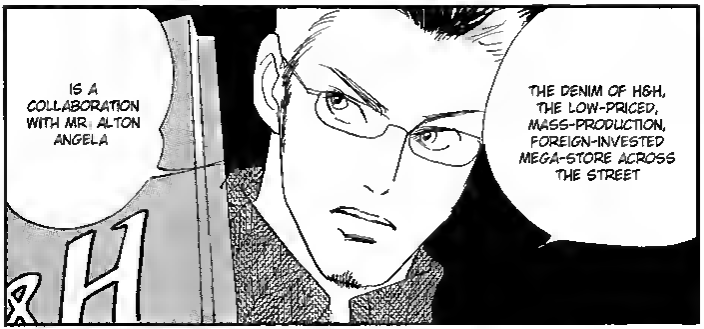
THANKS TO EVERYONE, WE WERE ABLE TO BRING THIS FRONT AND CENTER THANKS!
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THE REST OF THE BUSINESS TODAY
YES, MA'AM!
THEN
I'M GOING TO RETURN TO THE BUSINESS OFFICE NOW!
AMANO-SAN, THANK YOU SO MUCH
ME TOO, THEN.
LOOKS LIKE I CAN REST EASY.
I TRULY APPRECIATE ALL YOU'VE DONE.
NO I WAS WORRIED, SO
YES. MOMOTA WAS ABOUT TO LOSE FACE EARLIER.


EH?
IT WAS YOU THAT I...
IF YOU HADN'T COME, TONOI-SAN...
WAS WORRY-ING FOR...

I WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO INTEGRATE THE ELEGANT BRANDS THAT WE ALREADY HAVE HERE
IN THE ECHIZENYA AND MOMOTA JEANS COLLABORATION
ECHIZENYA

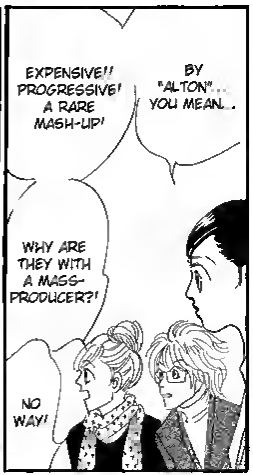
AND WITH ANNA ISU FOR THE YOUNG CASUALS
THE LUXURY JEWELRY LINE FROM TIOR AND
THE MID-LEVEL LINE FROM MARGARET
IT'LL BE GOOD TO GO WITH AN ECHIZENYA-ISH LINE-UP
KNOCK
KNOCK
YES?
SHINJOU-SAN, THE FACTORY
OKAY
OKAY
SUGIMOTO-SAN WILL DEAL WITH NEGOTIATIONS WITH EACH BRAND
ON THE MOMOTA SIDE WILL BE NAITOU-SAN
OKAY

THERE'S GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS
WHICH FIRST?
THE GOOD NEWS!
THE GOOD NEWS!
THE MOMOTA FAIR AT MATSUKOSHI HAS FAR SURPASSED ALL EXPECTATIONS
NEXT QUARTER, IT WILL BE ELEVATED TO THE ESSENTIALS IN THE CENTRAL SALES FLOOR
YA
?!
—HOW-EVER


IS A COLLABORATION WITH MR. ALTON ANGELA
H&
THE DENIM OF H&H, THE LOW-PRICED, MASS-PRODUCTION, FOREIGN-INVESTED MEGA-STORE ACROSS THE STREET

GA
SP!

FLOP!
HERE— THESE ARE THE SAMPLES.
PRECISELY 8,000 YEN!!


EXPENSIVE!! PROGRESSIVE! A RARE MASH-UP!
BY "ALTON"... YOU MEAN...
WHY ARE THEY WITH A MASS-PRODUCER?!
NO WAY!

YE AH
I'D NEVER EVEN CONSIDERED SUCH AN ARTSY, LONE WOLF-TYPE DESIGNER.
THEY'RE STYLISH AND SO WELL MADE, IT'S FRUSTRATING
YOU'D NEVER CONSIDER THEY WOULD GO FOR ONLY 8000 YEN
I'D BUY.
I'D BUY IT!
WHAT A FAB LINE!
I'M GONNA BUY IT!
SOMETHING THIS AWESOME COULD ONLY BE A DESIGN BY ALTON.

THEY HAD THE PRESIDENT'S WIFE WEAR THEM?!
THEY BEAT US!
UGH!

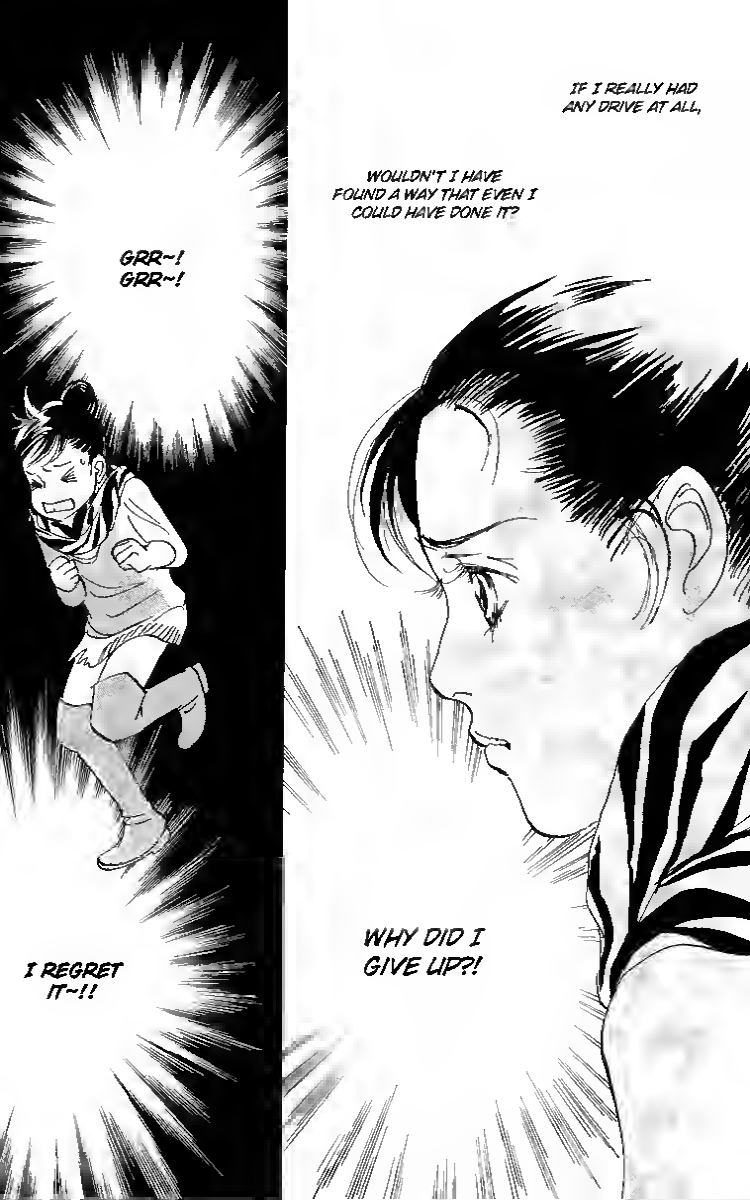
AND ANOTHER THING SOMEHOW, THEY GOT A CERTAIN COUNTRY'S PRESIDENT'S WIFE TO WEAR THAT DENIM.
WIFE'S HIGHS & LOWS
HSH HAS MADE A KILLING AMONG THE LADIES AND MADAMS BY DEBUTING AT THE SAME TIME

SO NOW THAT YOU KNOW THAT, DECIDE HOW WE SHOULD ADJUST THE STOCK OF OUR DENIM.
WHAT...?
I'M OUT.
CHICK!

SI——————LENCE
UM!
HN.
I SUPPOSE
WE HAVE MOMOTA.
WE CAN CLEARLY DIFFERENTIATE OURSELVES.
THAT'S RIGHT, THAT'S RIGHT!
HN
COOL-HEADED—
AS FAR AS OUR PLANS FOR RIGHT NOW,
OUR TARGETS, PRODUCTS, AND PRE-COLLAB— IT'S ALL QUITE DIFFERENT.
LET'S CONTINUE AS WE HAVE PLANNED.

OUR DENIM PLAN WILL NOT CHANGE
FLIP...
THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE AT THE BEGINNING OF NEXT WEEK
A 1
VACANT
YES, MA'AM!

I THOUGHT THAT IF KATE WORE THEM FOR US, WE COULD SELL BETTER.
KATE MOSS?
THAT'S GREAT!
THAT'S . . SOMETHING ANYONE COULD THINK UP.
I STOPPED THERE.
BUT THEN I DIDN'T THINK BEYOND THAT AND LAUGHED IT UP—


IF I REALLY HAD ANY DRIVE AT ALL,
WOULDN'T I HAVE FOUND A WAY THAT EVEN I COULD HAVE DONE IT?
GRR~! GRR~!
WHY DID I GIVE UP?!
I REGRET IT~!!

SHE'S ALRIGHT. JUST MAKE HER EAT SOMETHING REALLY GOOD
IT'S MORE LIKE SHE'S FIGURED IT OUT
DROOPY~
BOSS...
AMANO-SAN IS IN THE PITS.
HAVING ALTON'S DESIGN AND THE PRESIDENT'S WIFE WEAR THEM--
THERE ARE THOSE WHO CAN PULL STUNTS LIKE THAT

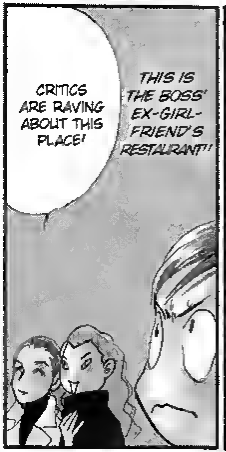
End of Chapter 68

Real Clothes
By Makimura Satoru
Brought to you by WingTipCafe.com
Translated by : Quixoticpixel
Proof_read by : Cyber_3
Cleaned by : Pamalda
Typeset by : In Valen's Name
QC by : Maris

Real Clothes

Chapter 69

GASP!


CRITICS ARE RAVING ABOUT THIS PLACE!
THIS IS THE BOSS' EX-GIRL-FRIEND'S RESTAURANT!!

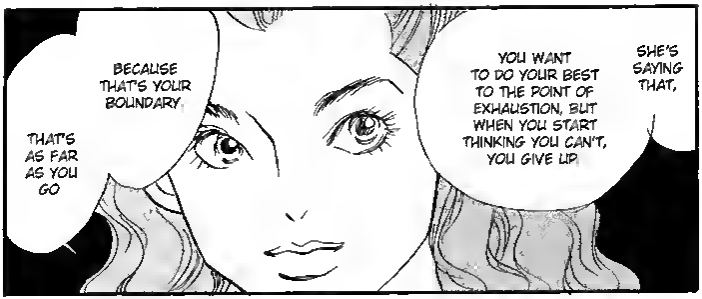
CRAP!!
Madonna

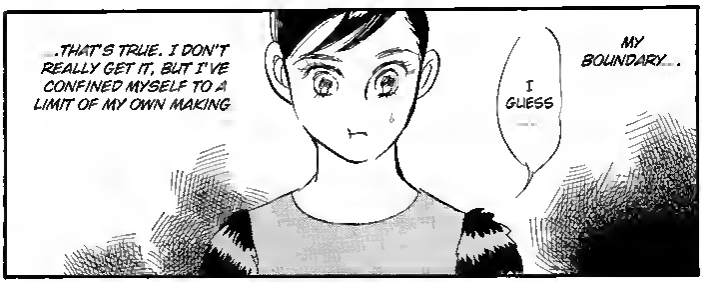
BACK THEN..
I WONDER WHY I GAVE UP..

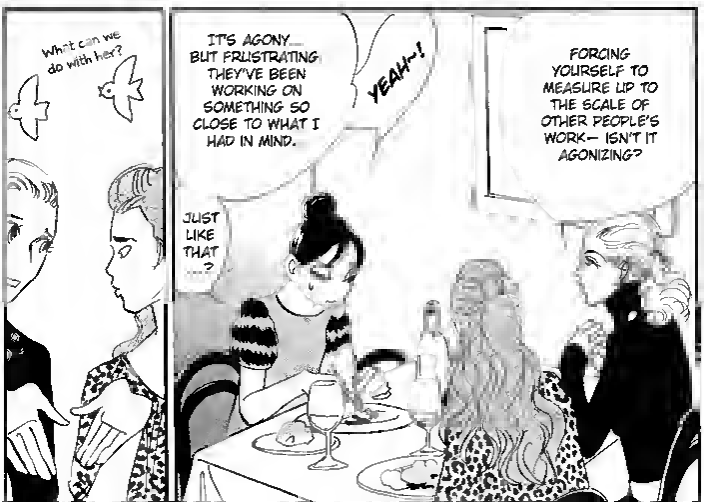
SORRY TO KEEP YOU—
GOOD—

BON
IRASSHAI-MASE

WHY WOULD YOU GIVE UP ON IT?
YEAH, SINCE THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO HAVE THE SAME IDEA BUT DON'T GIVE UP
SMILE
RELIEVED!
DO YOU STILL THINK THAT YOU MUST "CONTINUE TO DEVELOP FOREVER, WITHOUT GIVING UP, NO MATTER WHAT IT IS," KINUE-CHAN?
BEFORE YOU TELL US, MAY I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
EH?
SURPRISE


SHE'S SAYING THAT,
YOU WANT TO DO YOUR BEST TO THE POINT OF EXHAUSTION, BUT WHEN YOU START THINKING YOU CAN'T, YOU GIVE UP.
BECAUSE THAT'S YOUR BOUNDARY.
THAT'S AS FAR AS YOU GO

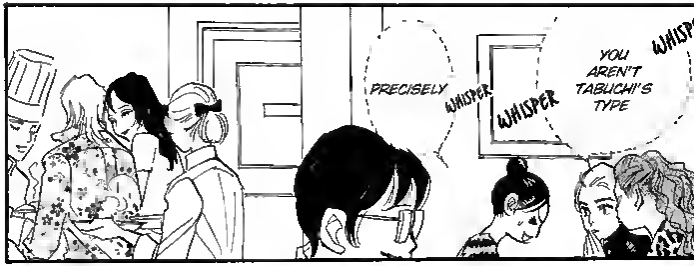

MY BOUNDARY...
I GUESS...
...THAT'S TRUE. I DON'T REALLY GET IT, BUT I'VE CONFINED MYSELF TO A LIMIT OF MY OWN MAKING

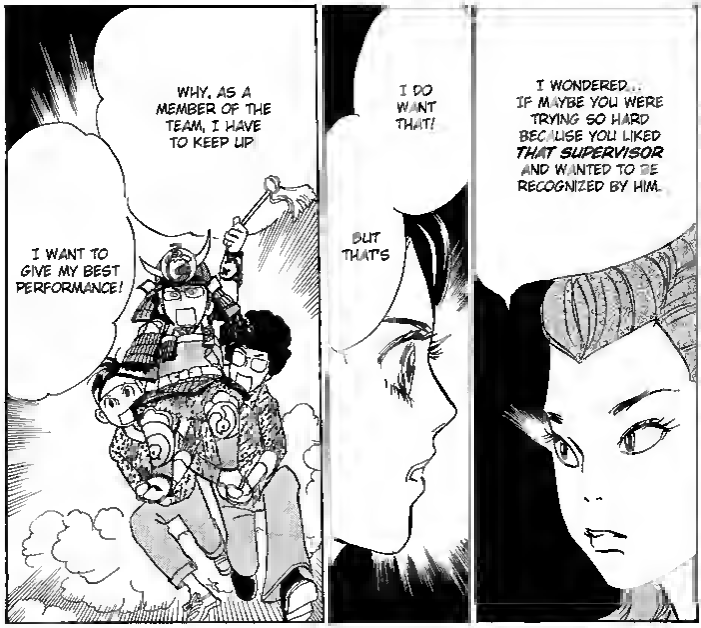

What can we do with her?
IT'S AGONY... BUT FRUSTRATING. THEY'VE BEEN WORKING ON SOMETHING SO CLOSE TO WHAT I HAD IN MIND.
YEAH~!
FORCING YOURSELF TO MEASURE UP TO THE SCALE OF OTHER PEOPLE'S WORK— ISN'T IT AGONIZING?
JUST LIKE THAT ...?

Real Clothes 9

FOR WHAT REASON WOULD YOU WANT TO BECOME BETTER AT YOUR JOB?
MONEY?
PROMOTION?
OF COURSE I WANT MONEY!!
BUT... MORE THAN THAT...
WORK IS FUN!
WHAT? THAT'S A TEXTBOOK ANSWER!
IF YOU IGNORE YOUR LIMITS TOO LONG, YOU'LL DESTROY YOUR BODY AND TURN INTO A MAN.
YOU'LL GROW A MUSTACHE.

AAAAAHHHH
SHH
SHH
WHILE YOU'RE WAITING, WHY DON'T YOU TRY ASKING SOMEONE "TO GO OUT"? LIKE TABUCHI OR NIKO, EVEN...
IF YOU DON'T CHANGE, FIVE YEARS— TEN YEARS WILL PASS IN A BLINK.
IT'S A SERIOUS CONCERN! HAVEN'T YOU BEEN SINGLE FOR A YEAR AND A HALF?
!!!
HMM
The chef here is Tabuchi-san's ex!
THRUST!

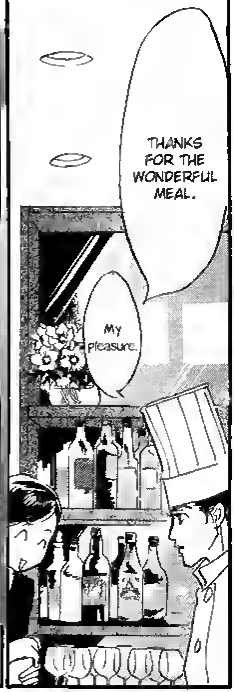

PRECISELY
WHISPER
WHISPER
YOU AREN'T TABUCHI'S TYPE
WHISPER...

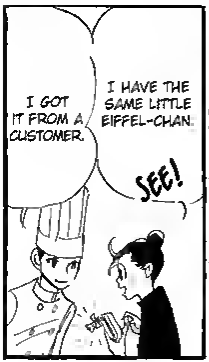

WHY, AS A MEMBER OF THE TEAM, I HAVE TO KEEP UP
I WANT TO GIVE MY BEST PERFORMANCE!
I DO WANT THAT!
BUT THAT'S
I WONDERED... IF MAYBE YOU WERE TRYING SO HARD BECAUSE YOU LIKED THAT SUPERVISOR AND WANTED TO BE RECOGNIZED BY HIM.

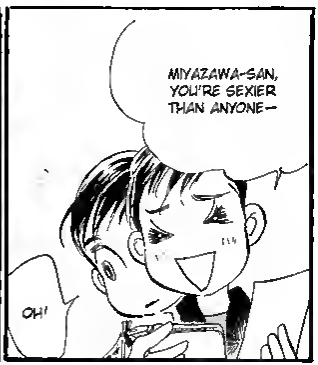
That won't cut it
"A member"?
SIGH

I'M JEALOUS. I DON'T HAVE ANY FEMALE FRIENDS.
I'M TURNING INTO A GUY.

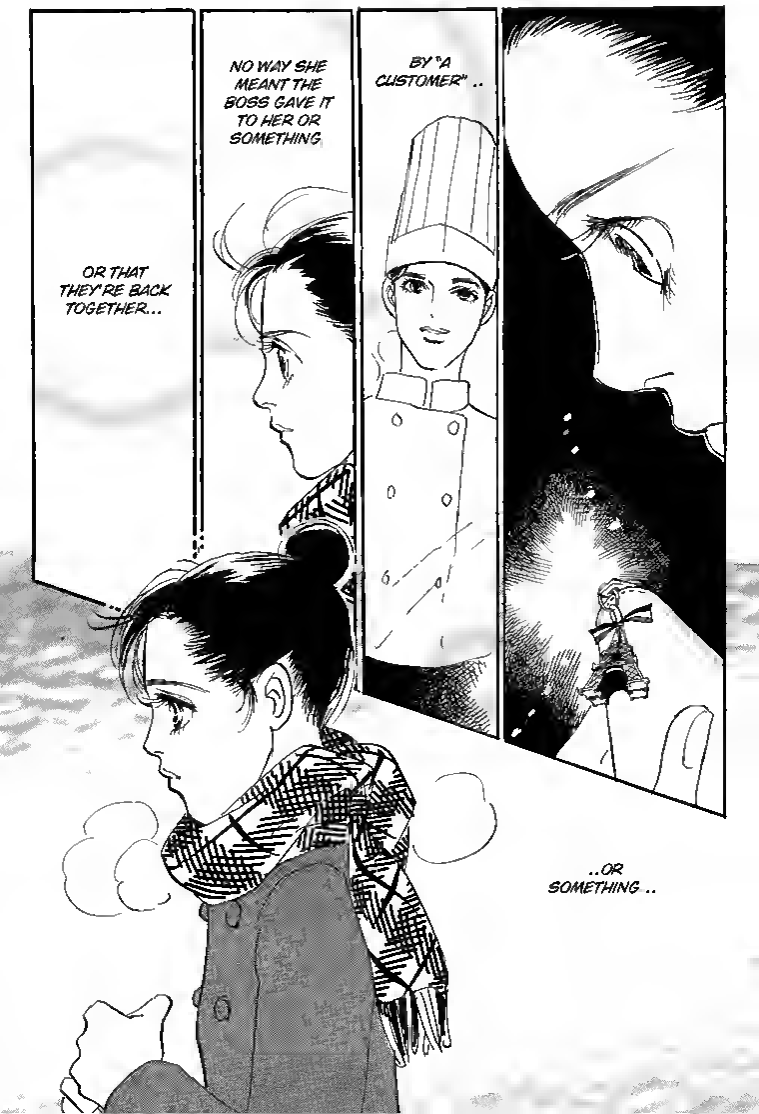
YOUR FRIENDS... THEY'RE LOVELY. BEAUTIFUL.
HA HA.
I'LL TELL THEM YOU SAID SO.

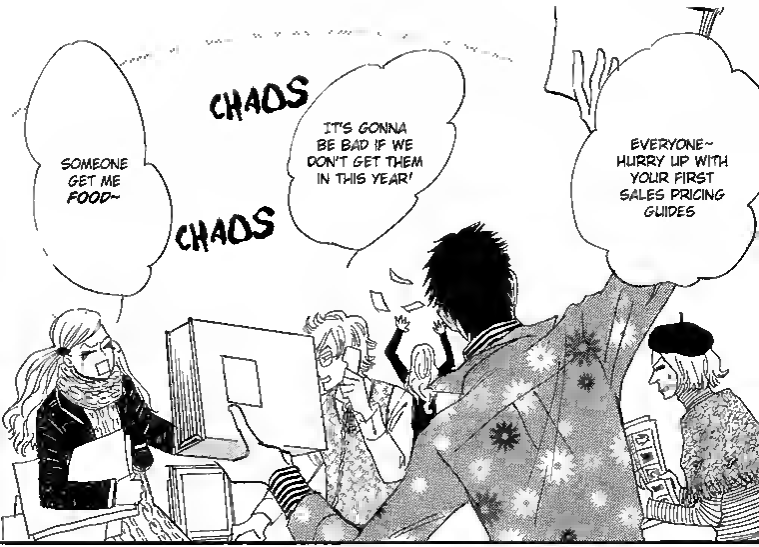

THANKS FOR THE WONDERFUL MEAL.
My pleasure.

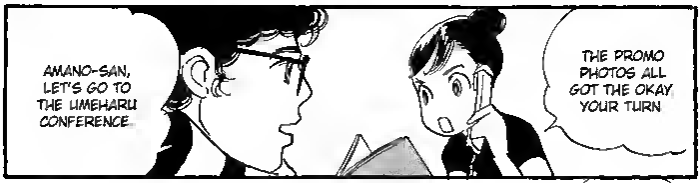

I GOT IT FROM A CUSTOMER.
I HAVE THE SAME LITTLE EIFFEL-CHAN.
SEE!

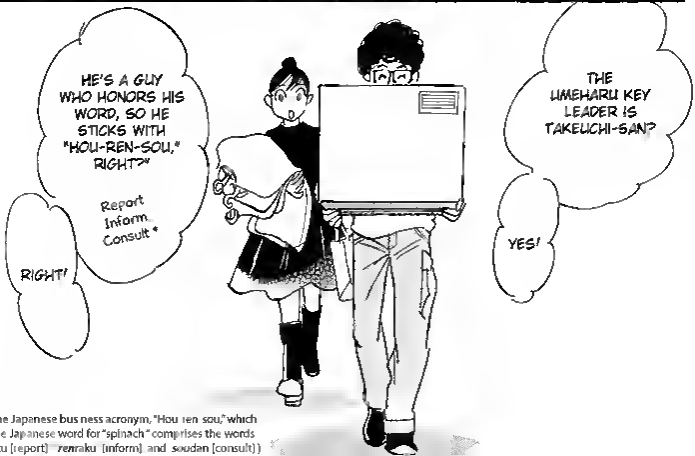

MIYAZAWA-SAN, YOU'RE SEXIER THAN ANYONE—
OH!

THE BOUNDARY, HUH... HA HA HA...
PHEW
SHE IS TRULY A GREAT WOMAN~ TABUCHI'S EX-GIRLFRIEND, THAT IS!
WHY WOULD THEY EVER BREAK UP?
I DON'T KNOW MYSELF.
KEEP IT A SECRET, EH? I'M BEGGING YOU TO KEEP THIS ALL SECRET, PLEASE?
WHAT SHOULD I DO TO BE ABLE TO OVERCOME IT?
GOD, EVEN IF IT TAKES GROWING A MUSTACHE, IT'S OKAY. I...
I'll shave.

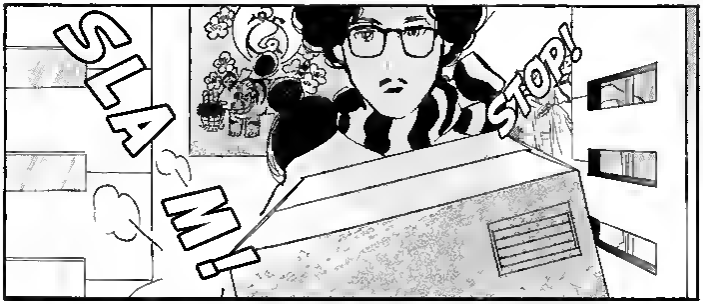

OR THAT THEY'RE BACK TOGETHER...
NO WAY SHE MEANT THE BOSS GAVE IT TO HER OR SOMETHING
BY "A CUSTOMER"..
..OR SOMETHING..

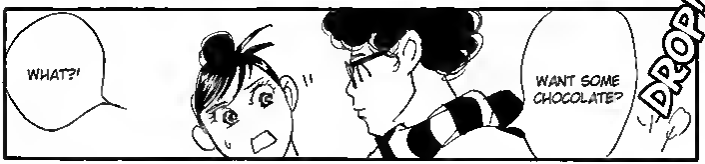

SOMEONE GET ME FOOD~
CHAOS
CHAOS
IT'S GONNA BE BAD IF WE DON'T GET THEM IN THIS YEAR!
EVERYONE~ HURRY UP WITH YOUR FIRST SALES PRICING GUIDES

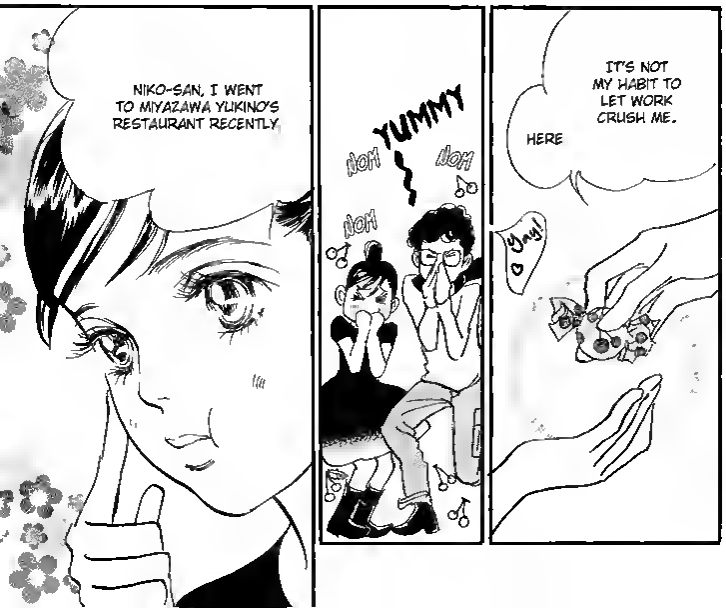


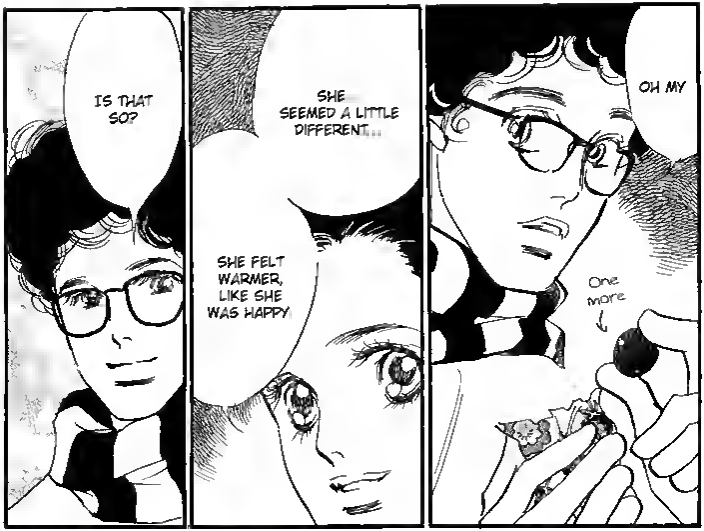


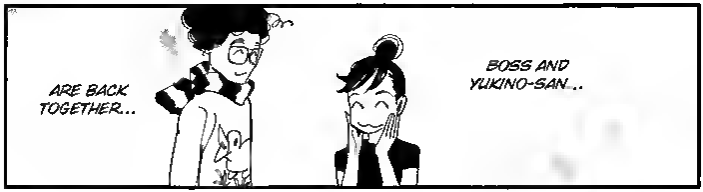
(*T/N The Japanese bus ness acronym, "Hou ren sou," which forms the Japanese word for "spinach" comprises the words houkoku [report] renraku [inform] and soudan [consult])

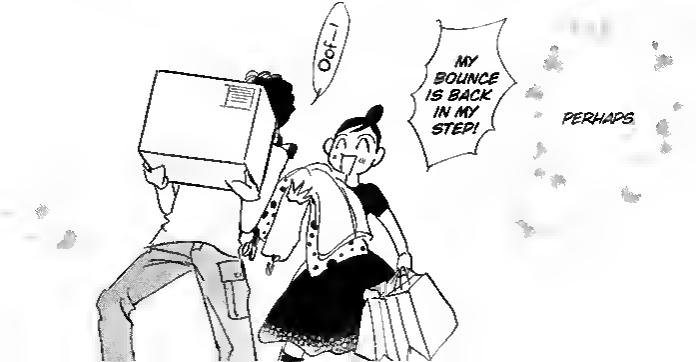

SLAM!
STOP!


WHAT?!
WANT SOME CHOCOLATE?
DROP!

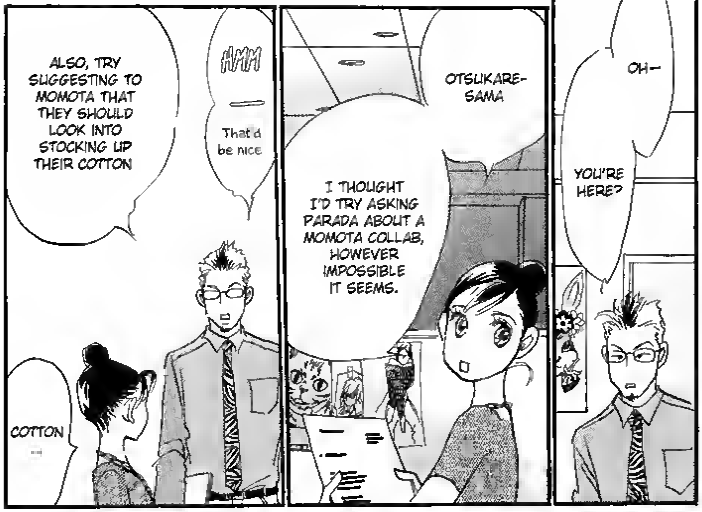

NIKO-SAN, I WENT TO MIYAZAWA YUKINO'S RESTAURANT RECENTLY
YUMMY
NOM
NOM
NOM
IT'S NOT MY HABIT TO LET WORK CRUSH ME.
HERE
Yay!

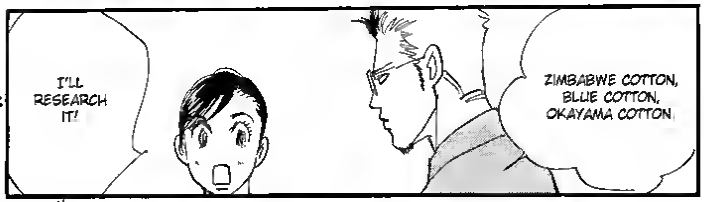

IS THAT SO?
SHE SEEMED A LITTLE DIFFERENT...
SHE FELT WARMER, LIKE SHE WAS HAPPY!
OH MY
One more

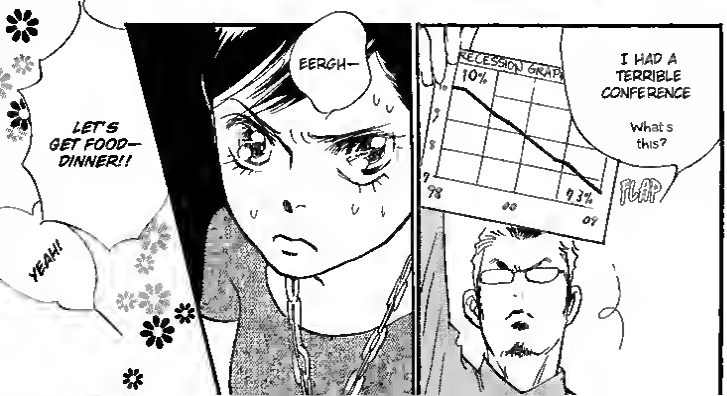

ARE BACK TOGETHER...
BOSS AND YUKINO-SAN...


Oof—!
MY BOUNCE IS BACK IN MY STEP!
PERHAPS

Real Clothes 9


ALSO, TRY SUGGESTING TO MOMOTA THAT THEY SHOULD LOOK INTO STOCKING UP THEIR COTTON
HMM
That'd be nice
COTTON
OTSUKARE-SAMA
I THOUGHT I'D TRY ASKING PARADA ABOUT A MOMOTA COLLAB, HOWEVER IMPOSSIBLE IT SEEMS.
OH—
YOU'RE HERE?





WHERE'S NIKO?
HE LEFT IN A RUSH. PROBABLY HAD SOME SORT OF CHRISTMAS DINNER PLANS.
ALRIGHT! LET'S GO DO THAT TOO.
IT'S PROBABLY BEEN OVER FOR A WHILE NOW. ABOUT THIS TIME, LOVERS ARE...
I KNOW WHO THE CHALLENGER FROM HSH IS.
AH!
WOW, BOSS, LOOK— HOW PRETTY!!
JINBO MIKI.

FAINT!
THIS TIME, SHE'S OUR ENEMY
IT'S MORE EXCITING THAN A DATE!

HEY YOU, OVER THERE! PLEASE DON'T STOP AT THE TOP OF THE PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE!
I DON'T WANNA...
PLEASE WALK ON THE LEFT SIDE
BUMP!
I DON'T WANNA!!

◆ End of Chapter 69 ◆

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